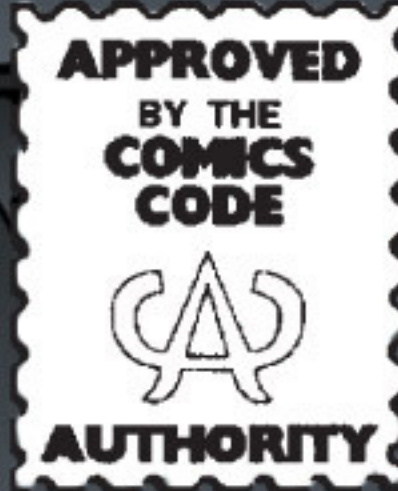


Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

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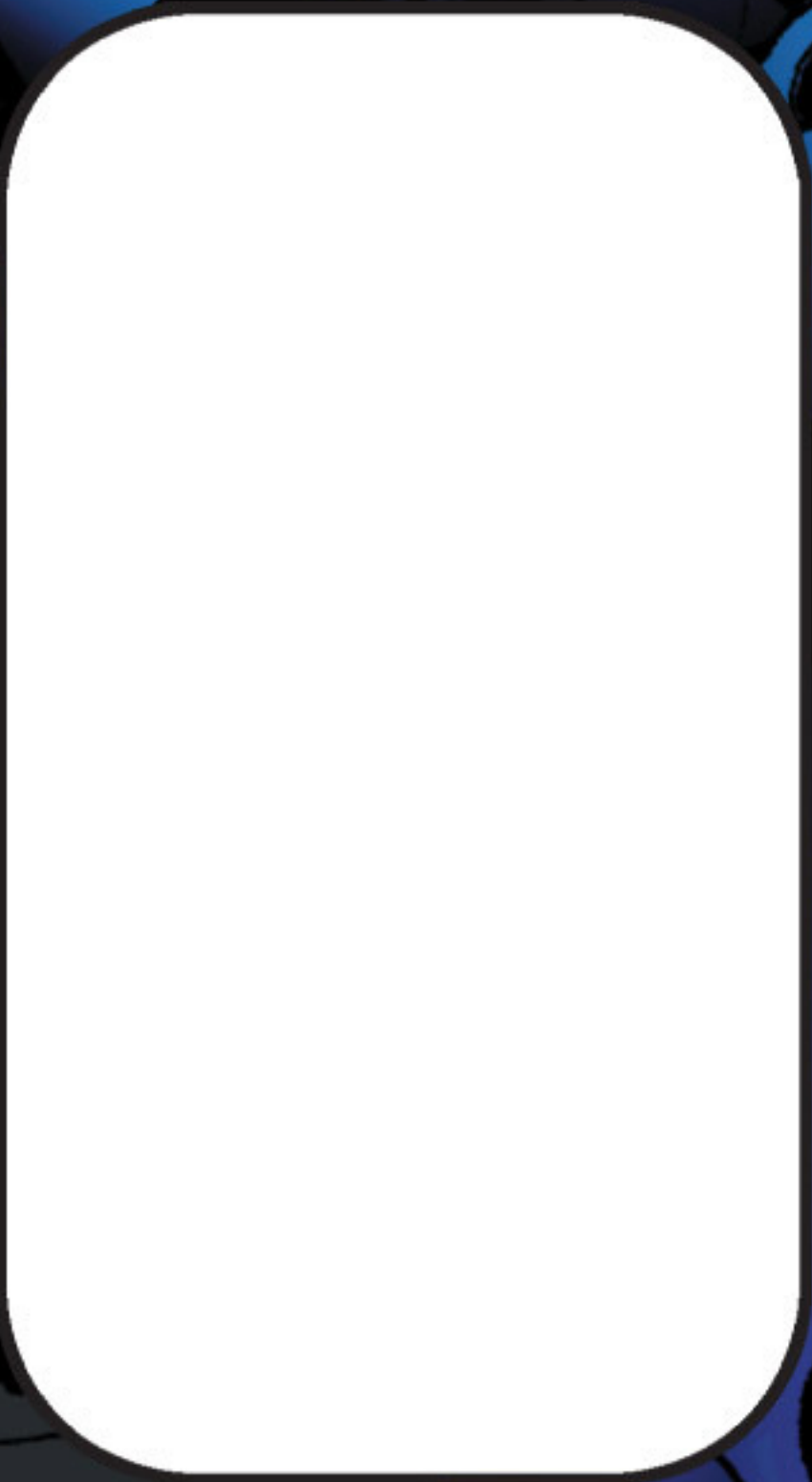
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC

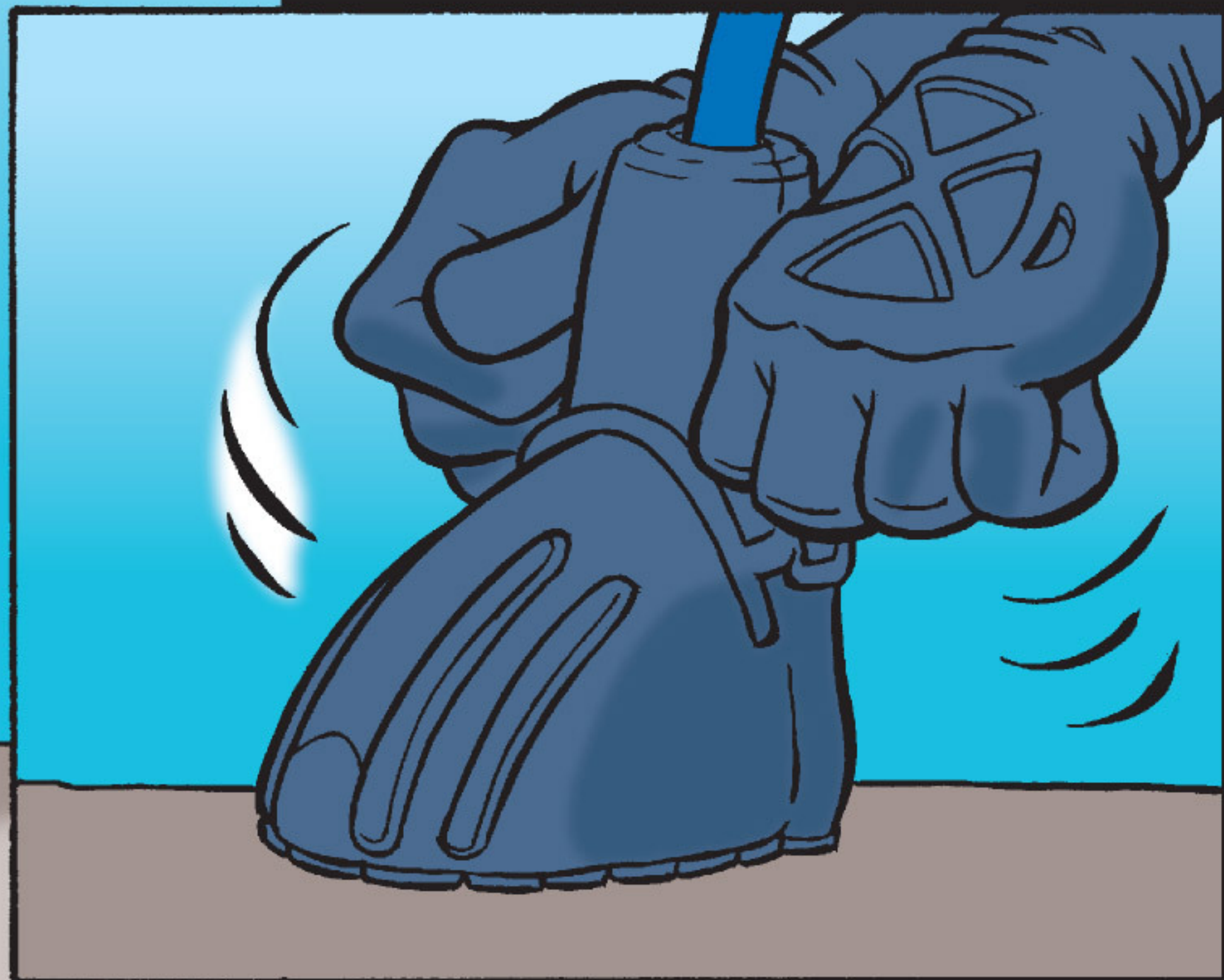
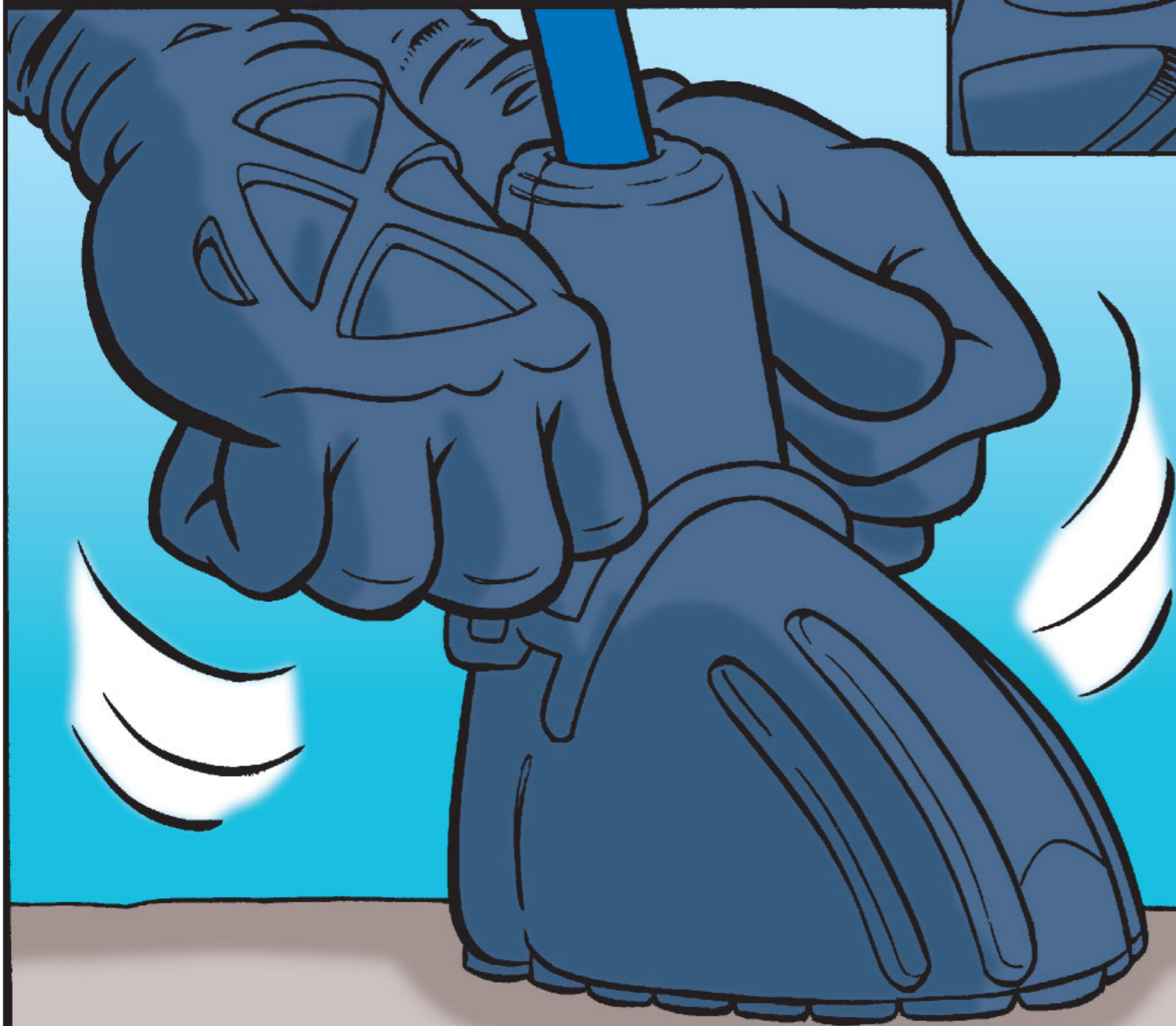
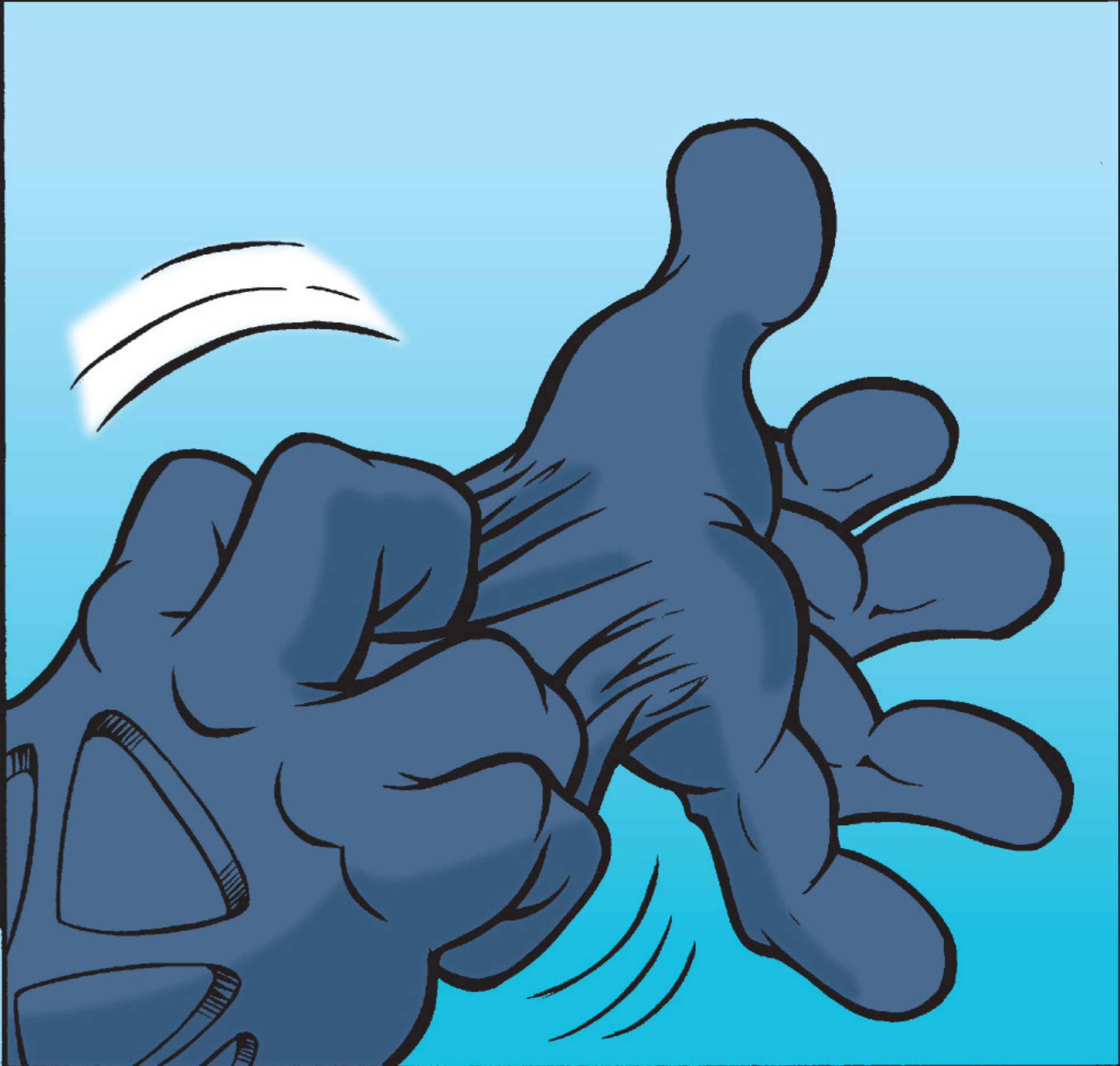


THE HEDGEHOG

SEGA



IN NO TIME
AT ALL...



...I HAD UP
'N CREATED...



After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

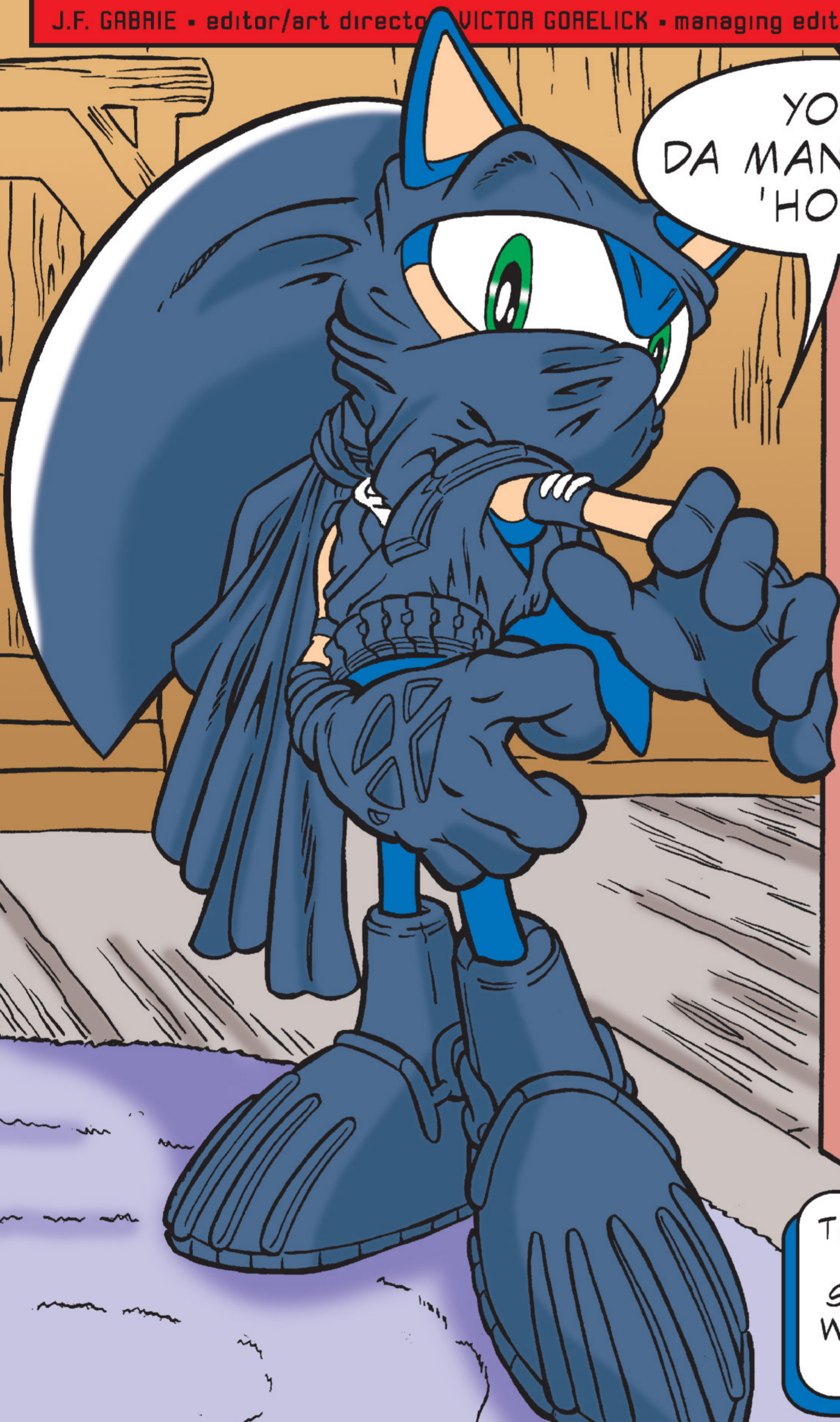
KARL BOLLERS • writer NELSON RIBEIRO & HARVEY MERCADOOCASIO • pencils

MY SECRET

KEN PENDERS & PAM EKLUND • inks JEFF POWELL • letterer FRANK GAGLIARDO • colorist

IDENTITY

J.F. GABRIE • editor/art director VICTOR GORELICK • managing editor RICHARD GOLDWATER • editor in chief

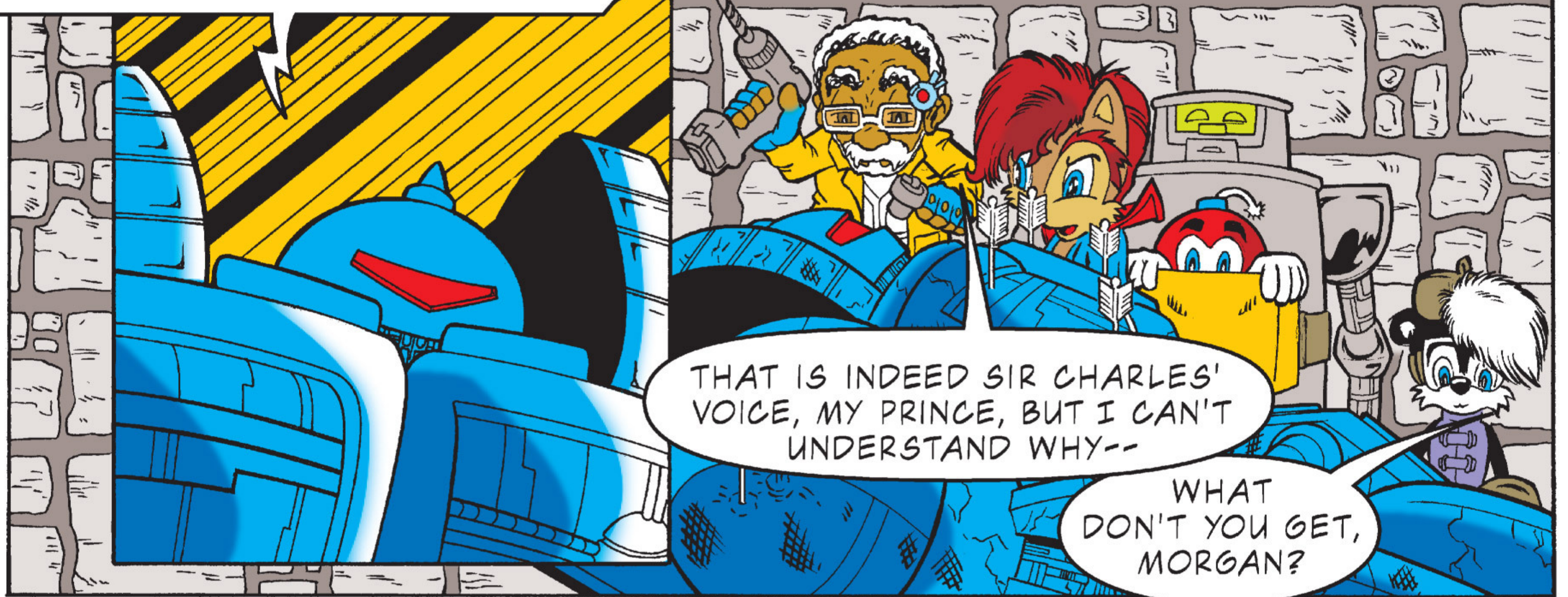


YOU
DA MAN NOW,
'HOG!

THAT WAS THE EASY
PART. FINDIN' THE
SWORD OF ACORNS
WOULD BE A WHOLE
'NOTHER STORY.

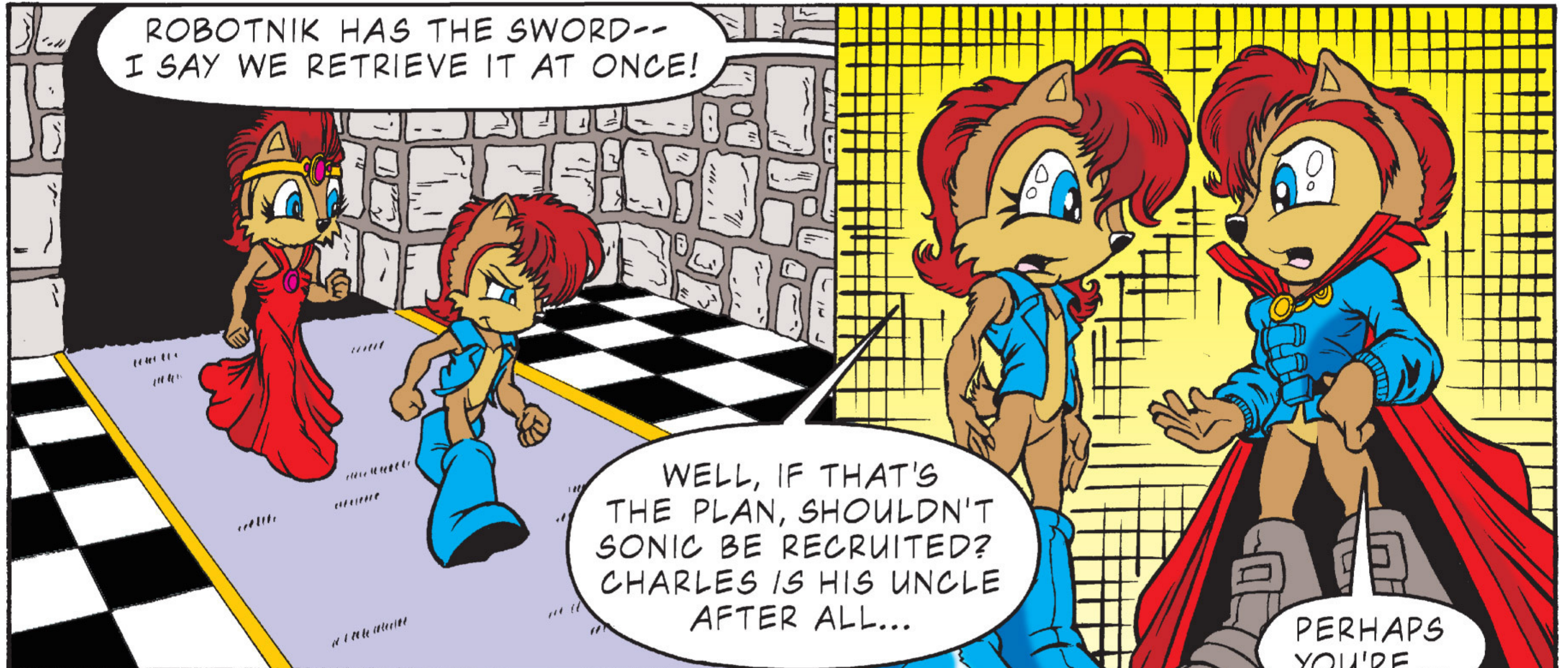
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (ISSN:10705090), No. 97, July, 2001. Published every 4 weeks, twice in May by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkleit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$1.99 in the U.S.; \$2.39 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$25.87 for 13 issues; \$31.07 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. © SEGA CORPORATION 2001. All Rights Reserved. SEGA, DREAMCAST, the Dreamcast logo, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters are trademarks or registered trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION or its affiliates. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc., P.O. Box 7639, San Francisco, CA 94120-7639. www.sega.com Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada

SWORD OF ACORN'S }SQWAAARRK<
RESTORE WILL }SQWAAARK< ROBOTNIK
}SQWAAARRK< HAS IT.



THAT IS INDEED SIR CHARLES' VOICE, MY PRINCE, BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY--

WHAT DON'T YOU GET, MORGAN?



ROBOTNIK HAS THE SWORD-- I SAY WE RETRIEVE IT AT ONCE!

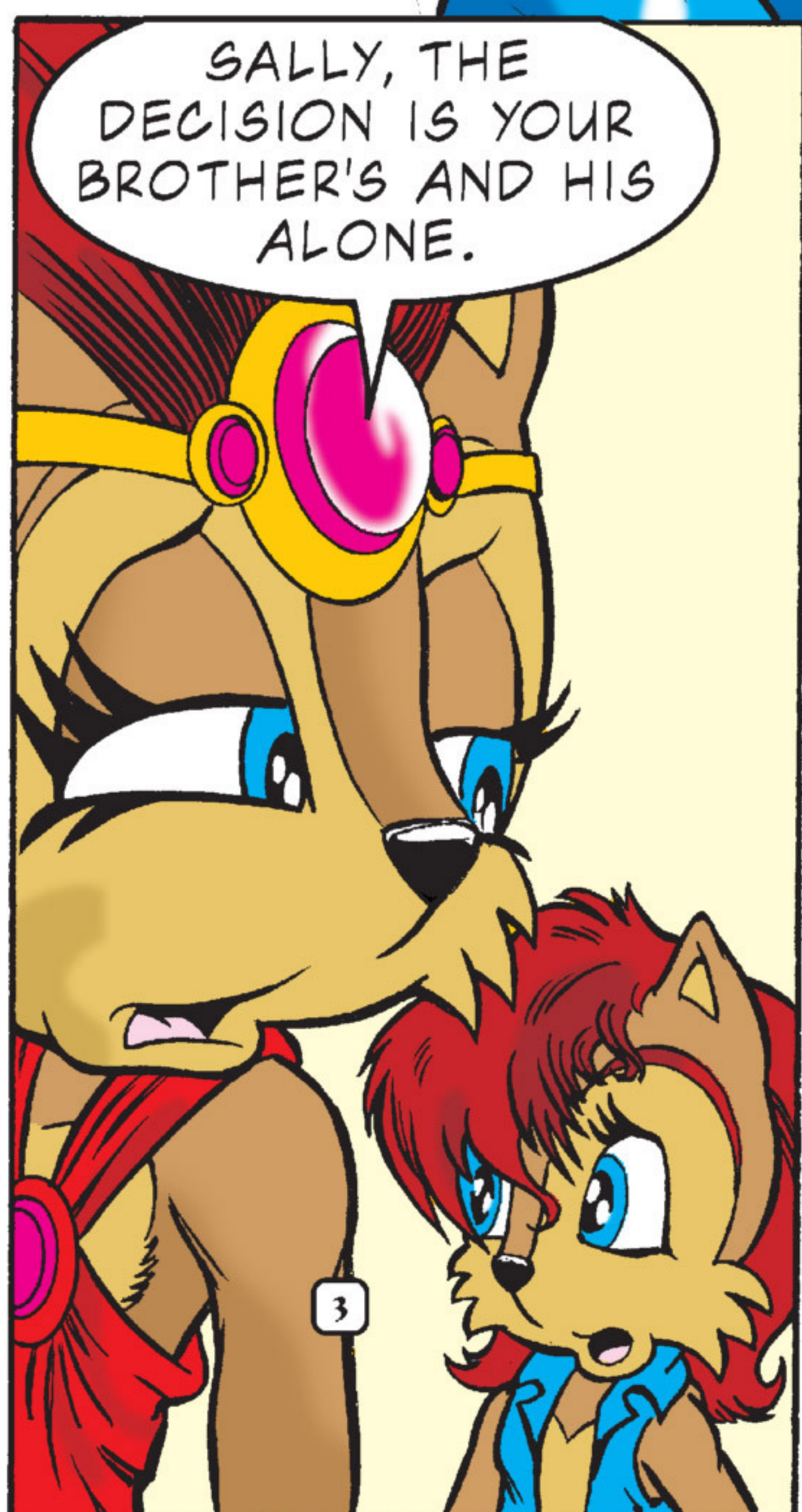
WELL, IF THAT'S THE PLAN, SHOULDN'T SONIC BE RECRUITED? CHARLES IS HIS UNCLE AFTER ALL...

PERHAPS YOU'RE...



HOLD ON A MINUTE! IT'S SONIC'S FAULT WE LOST THE SWORD TO BEGIN WITH!

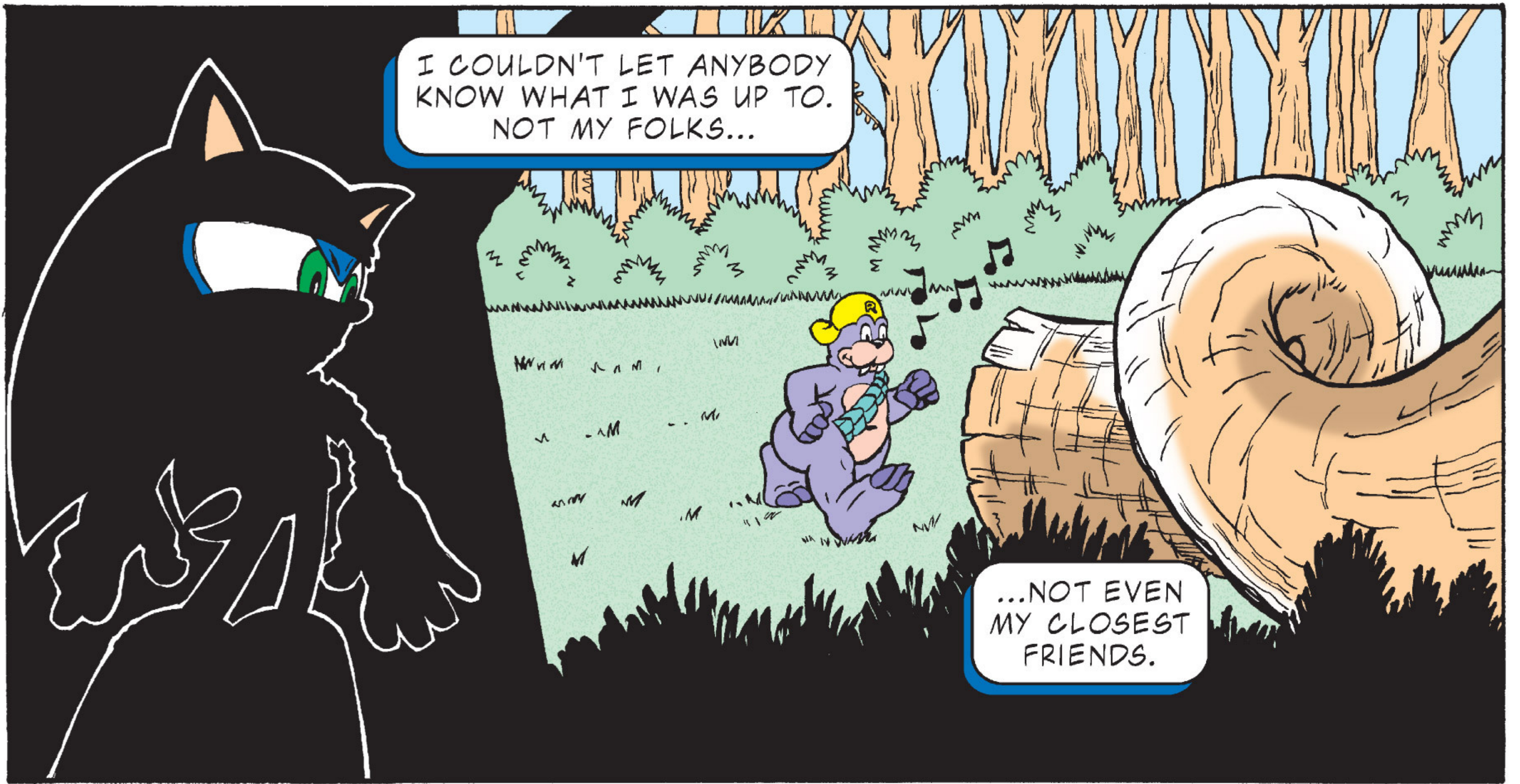
YOU'RE HARDLY BEING FAIR, GEOFFREY--



SALLY, THE DECISION IS YOUR BROTHER'S AND HIS ALONE.

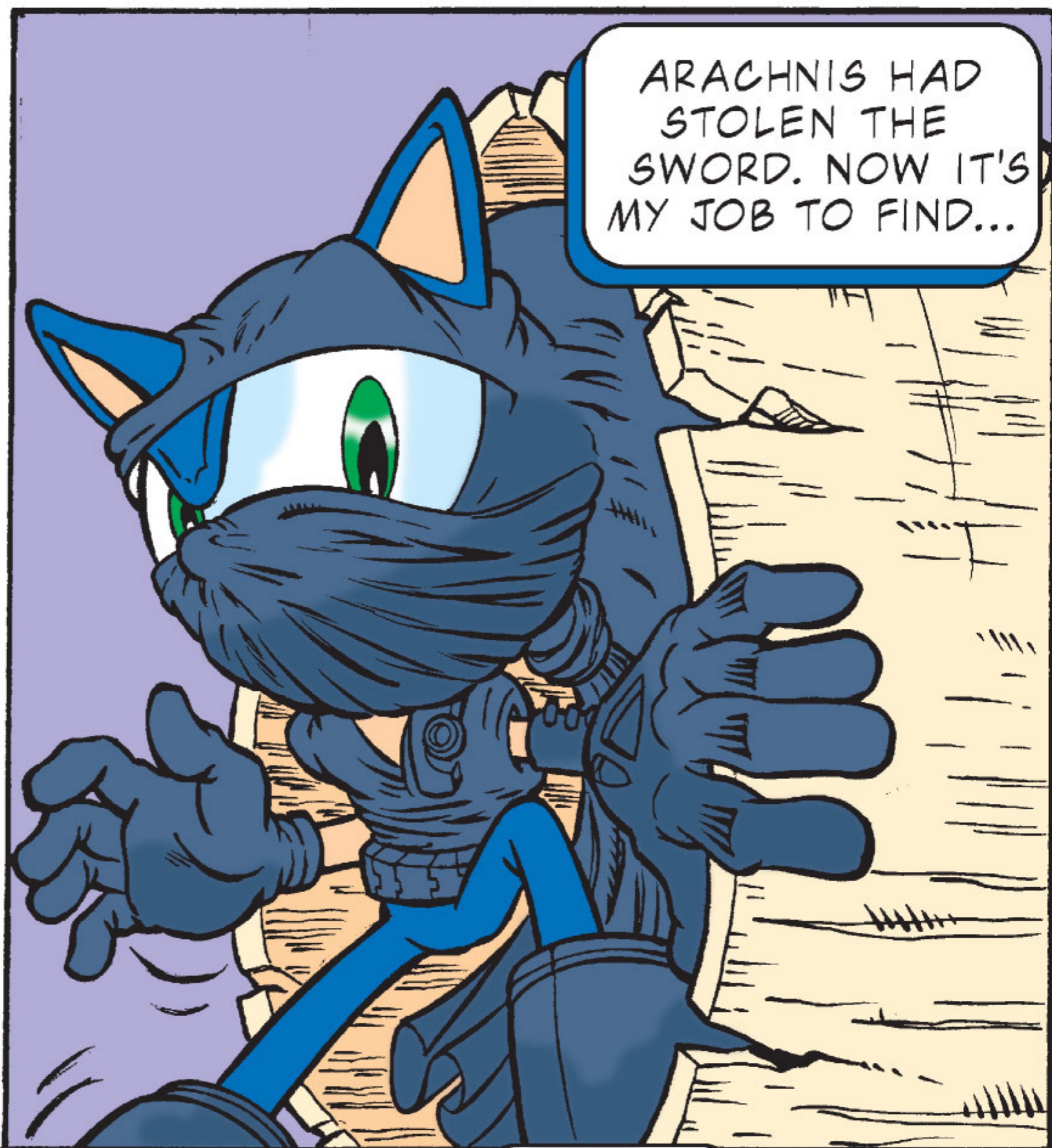


GEOFFREY, YOU AND YOUR TEAM HAD BETTER GET A MOVE ON...

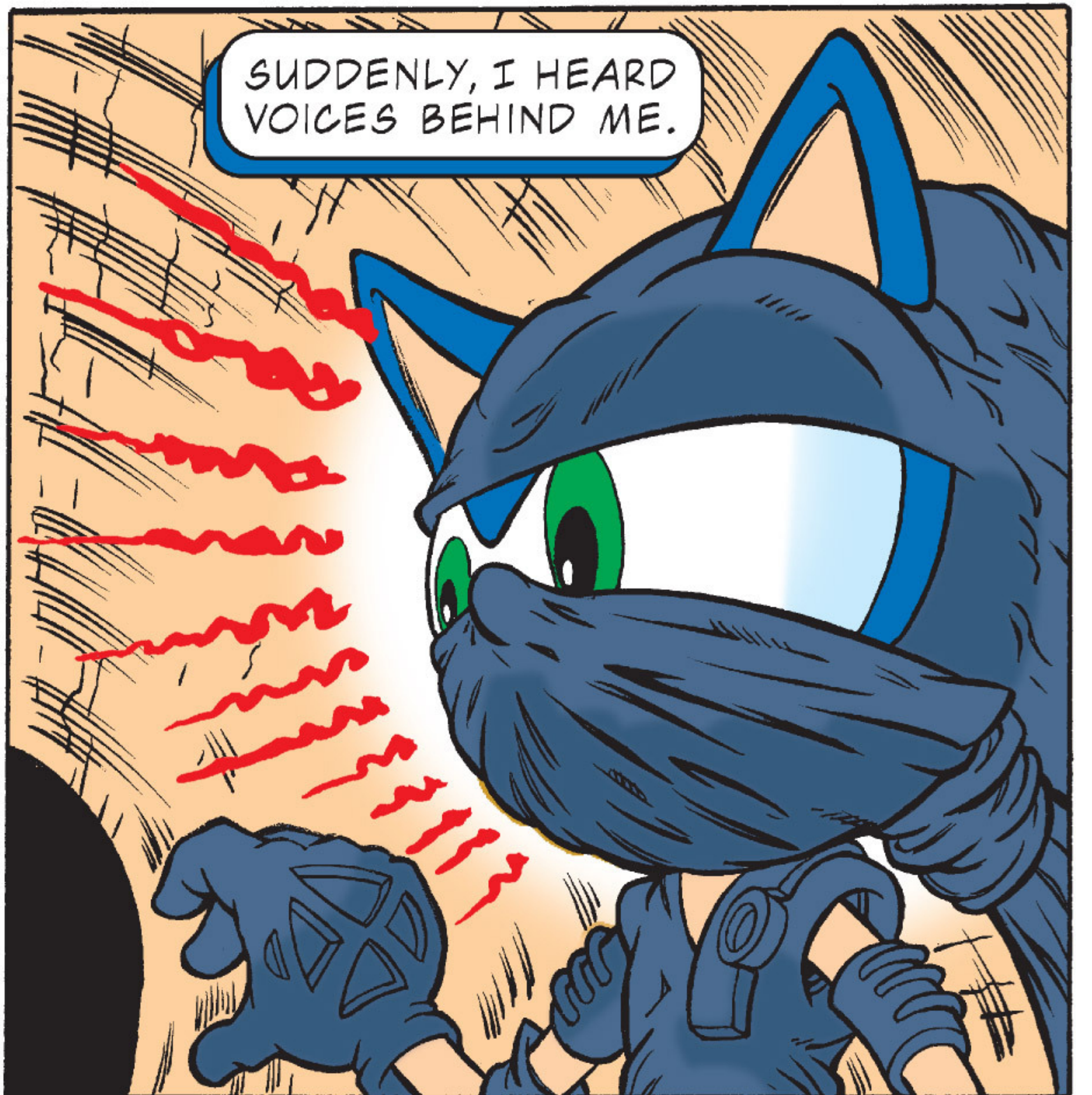


I COULDN'T LET ANYBODY KNOW WHAT I WAS UP TO. NOT MY FOLKS...

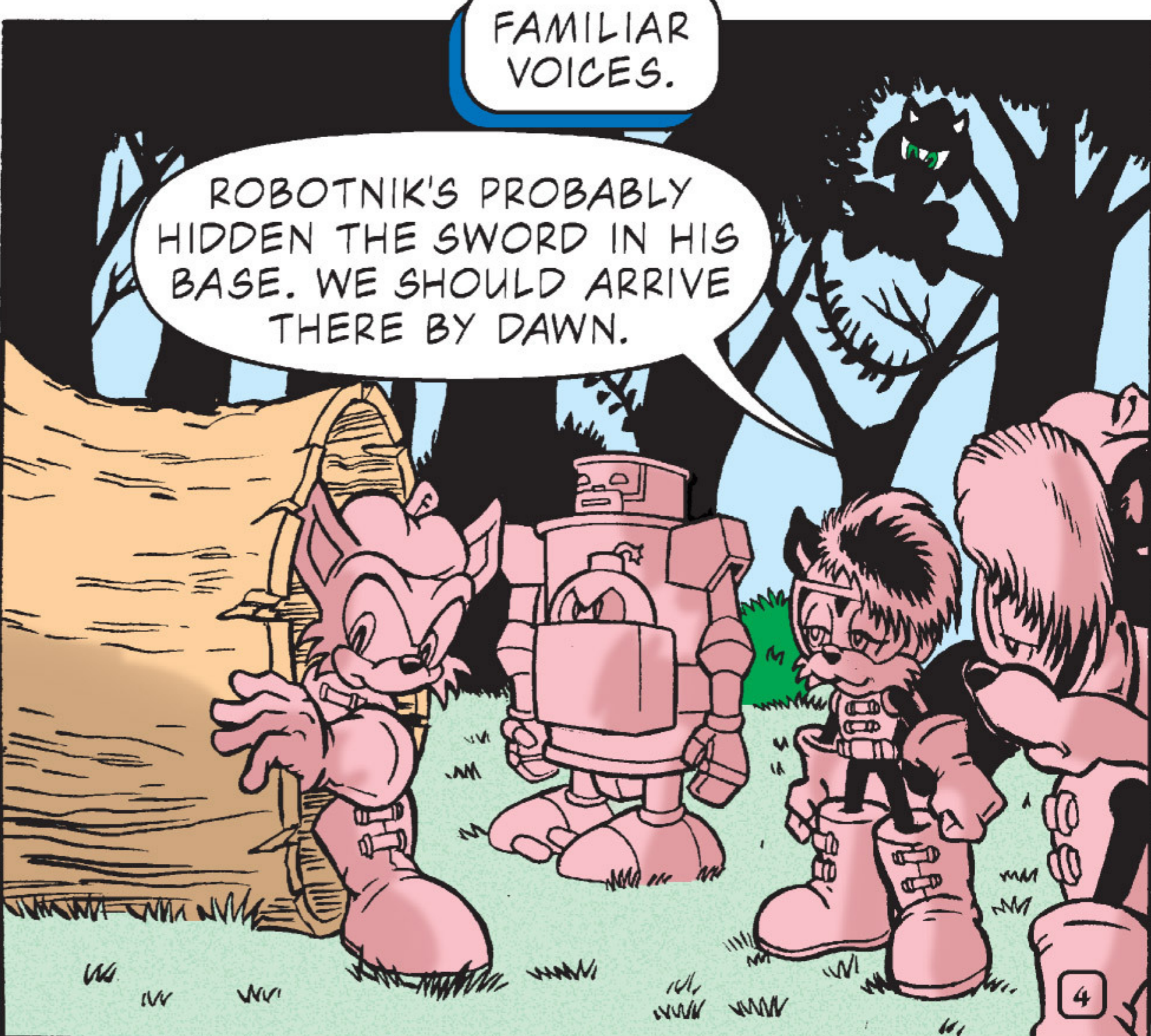
...NOT EVEN MY CLOSEST FRIENDS.



ARACHNIS HAD STOLEN THE SWORD. NOW IT'S MY JOB TO FIND...



SUDDENLY, I HEARD VOICES BEHIND ME.

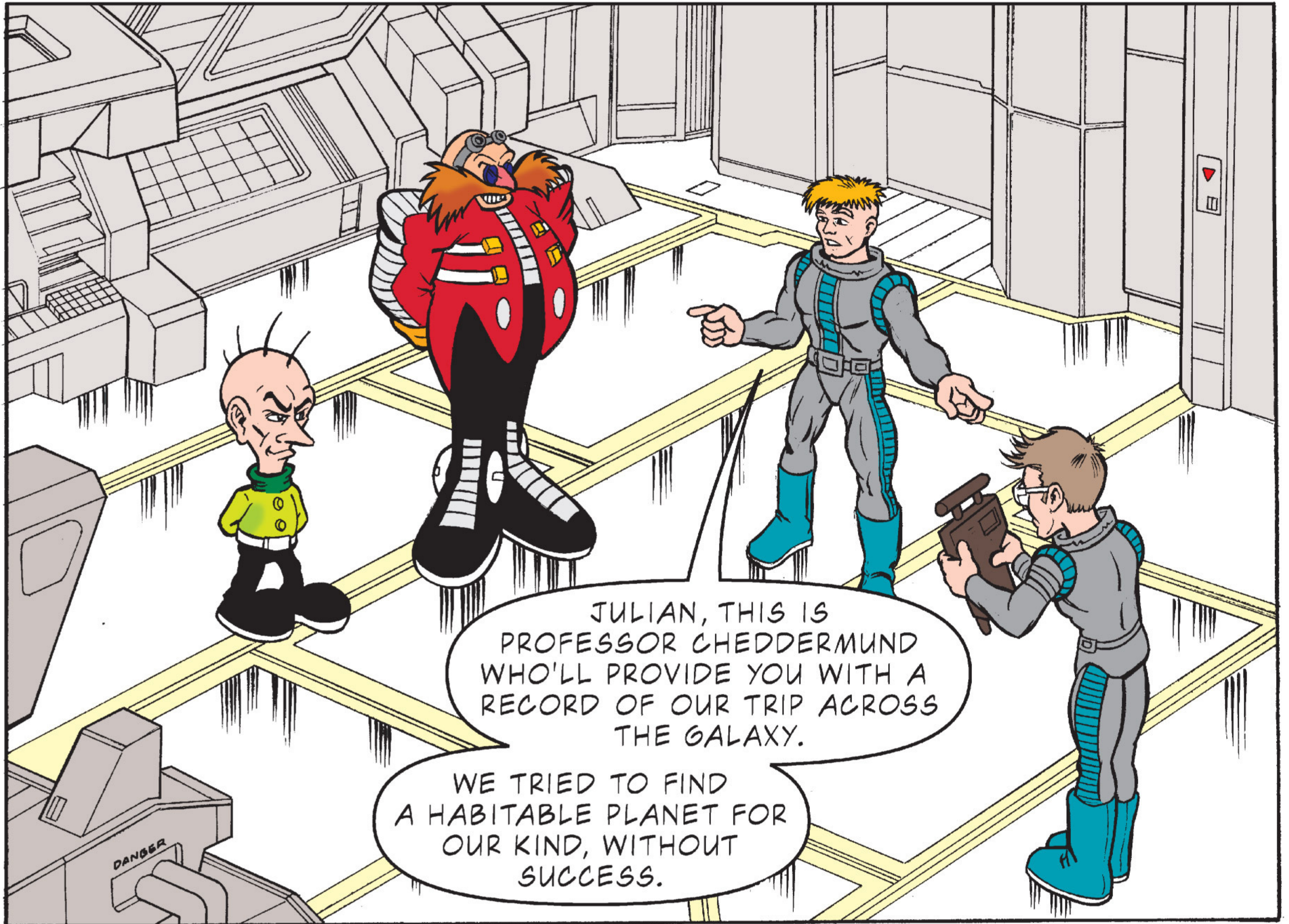


FAMILIAR VOICES.

ROBOTNIK'S PROBABLY HIDDEN THE SWORD IN HIS BASE. WE SHOULD ARRIVE THERE BY DAWN.

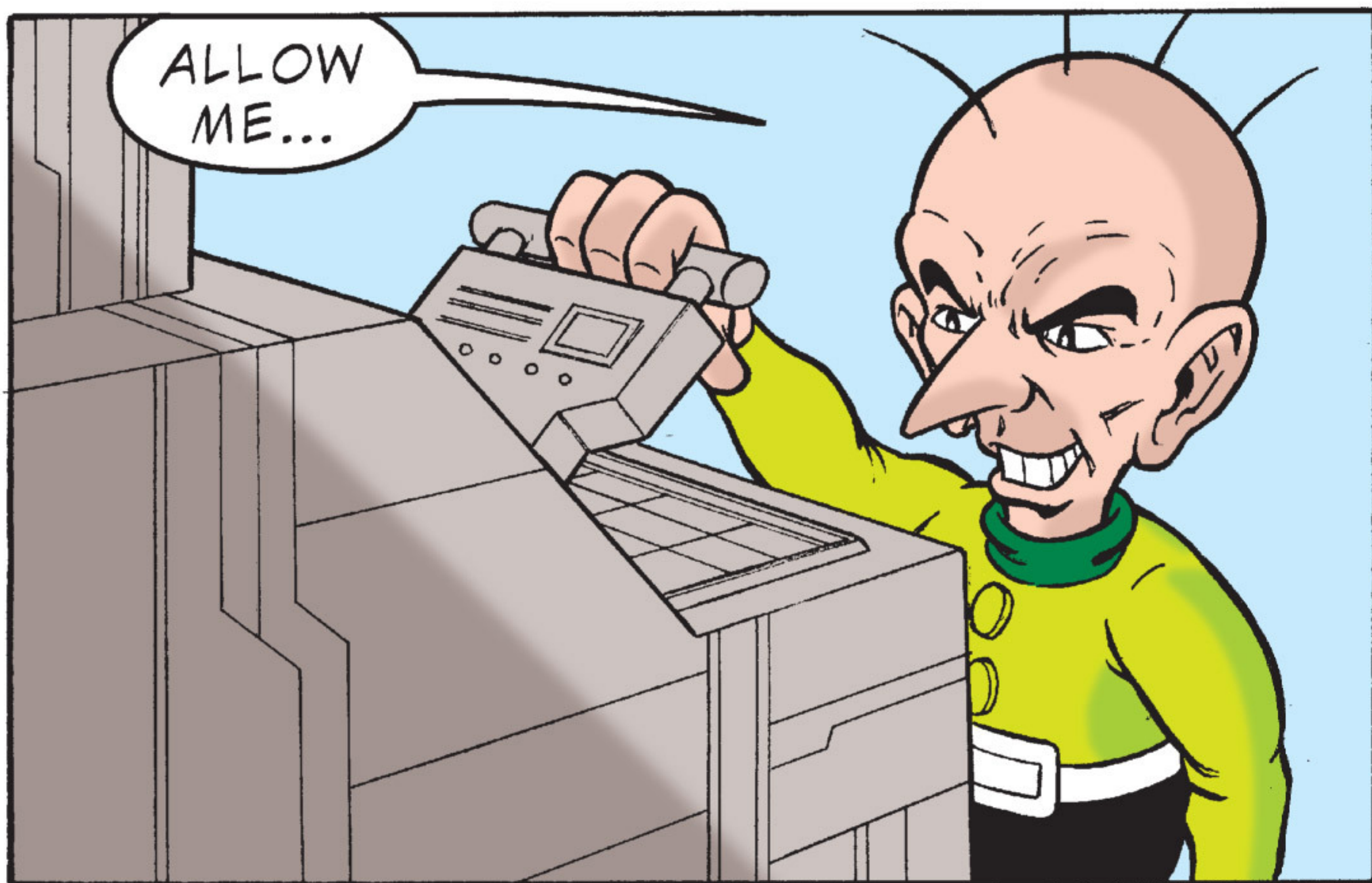


WRONG-O, ST. JERK. SO MUCH FOR MY MISSION. FOR NOW, I'D HAVE TO TAKE A DETOUR TO...

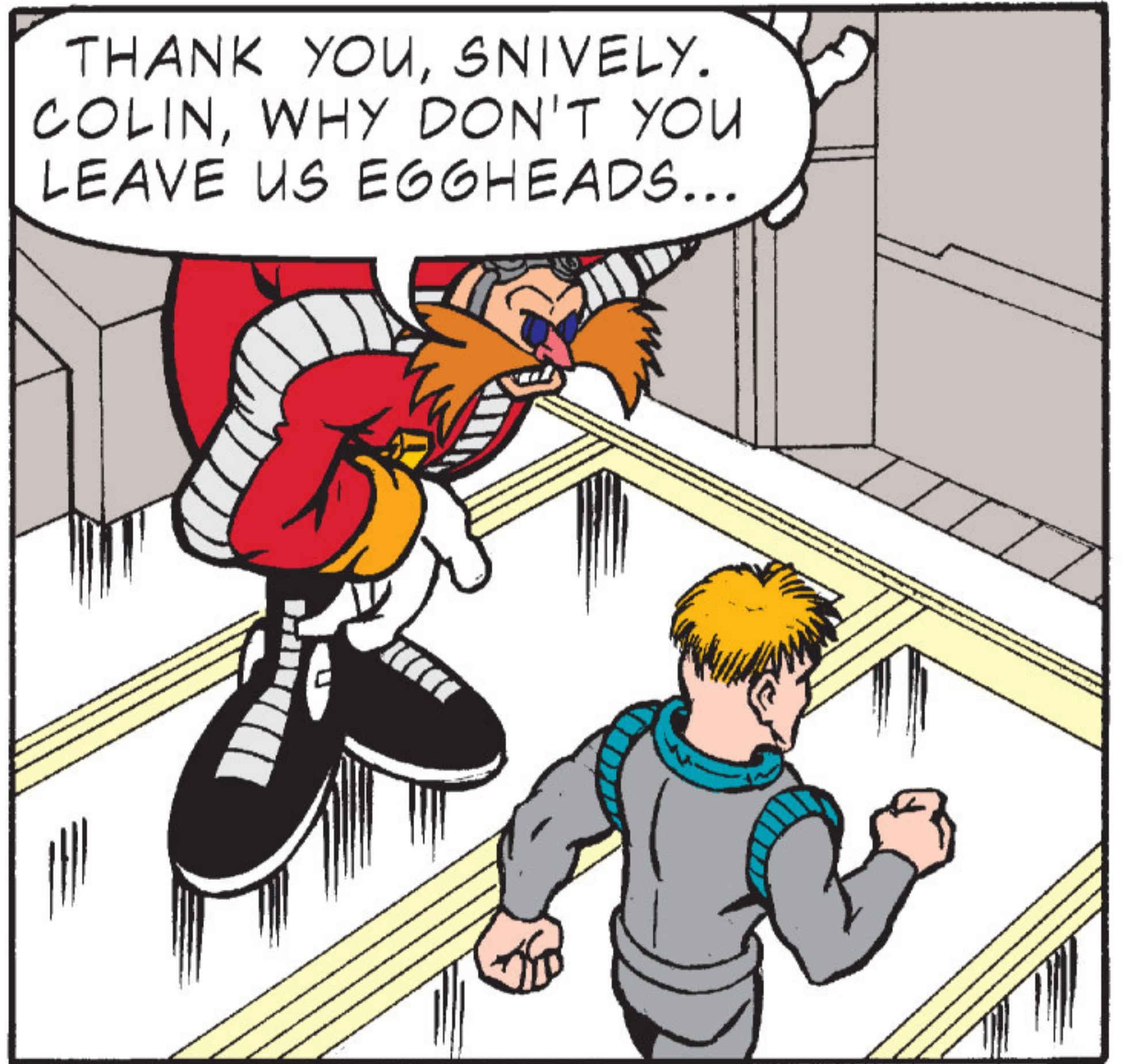


JULIAN, THIS IS PROFESSOR CHEDDERMUND WHO'LL PROVIDE YOU WITH A RECORD OF OUR TRIP ACROSS THE GALAXY.

WE TRIED TO FIND A HABITABLE PLANET FOR OUR KIND, WITHOUT SUCCESS.



ALLOW ME...



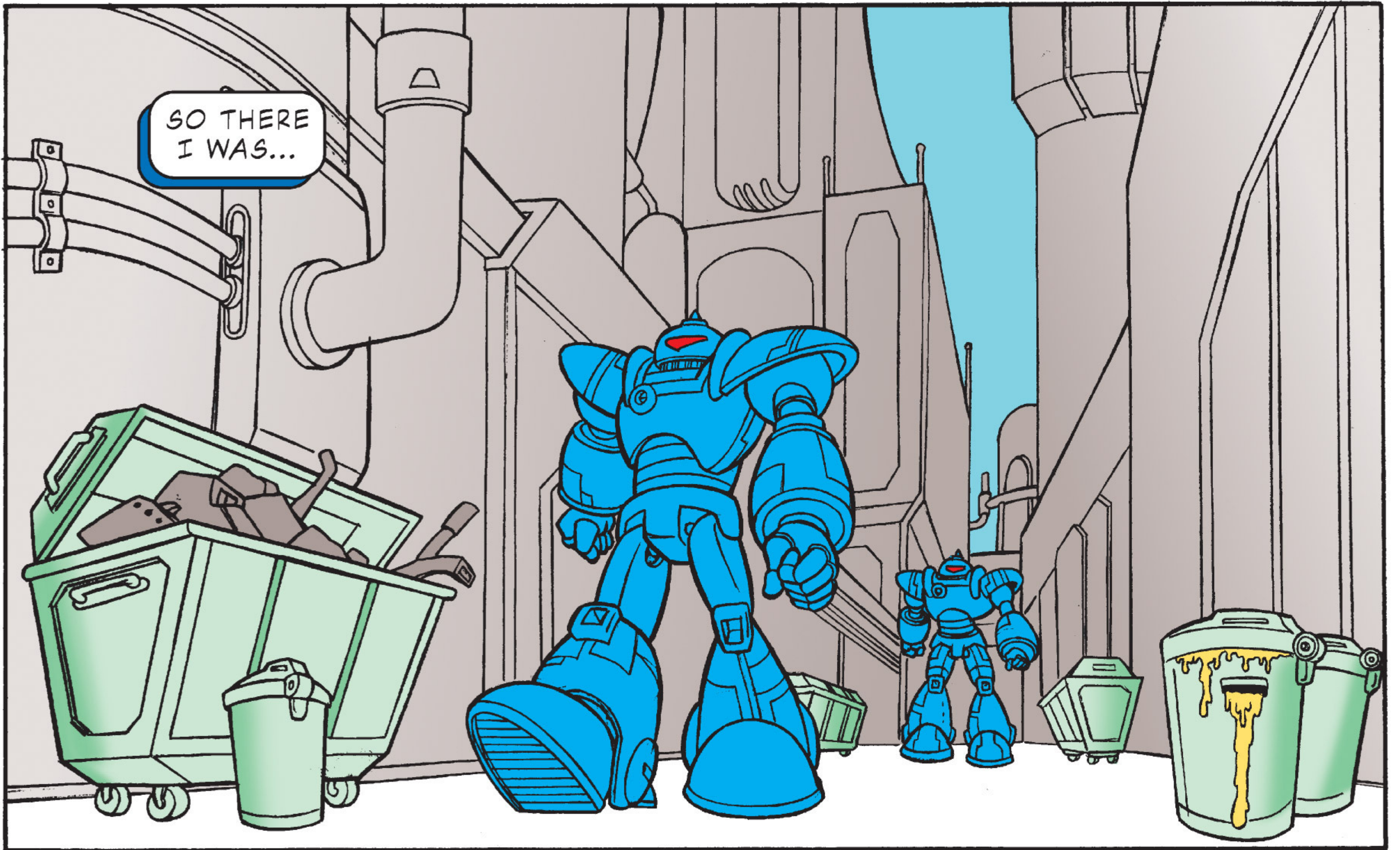
THANK YOU, SNIVELY. COLIN, WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE US EGGHEADS...



...TO BUSINESS?



BUSINESS AS USUAL...

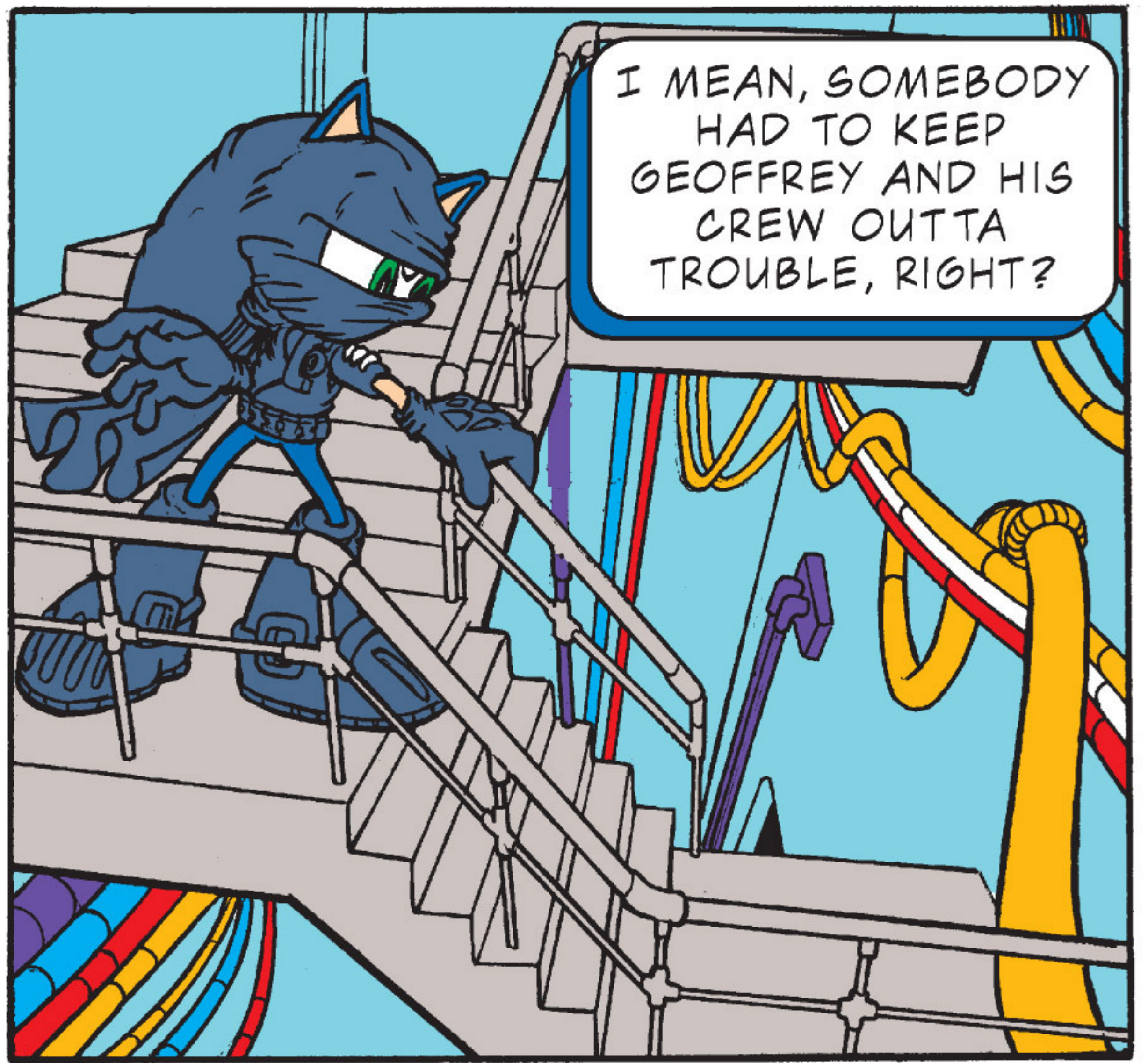


SO THERE I WAS...



THAT WAS CLOSE.

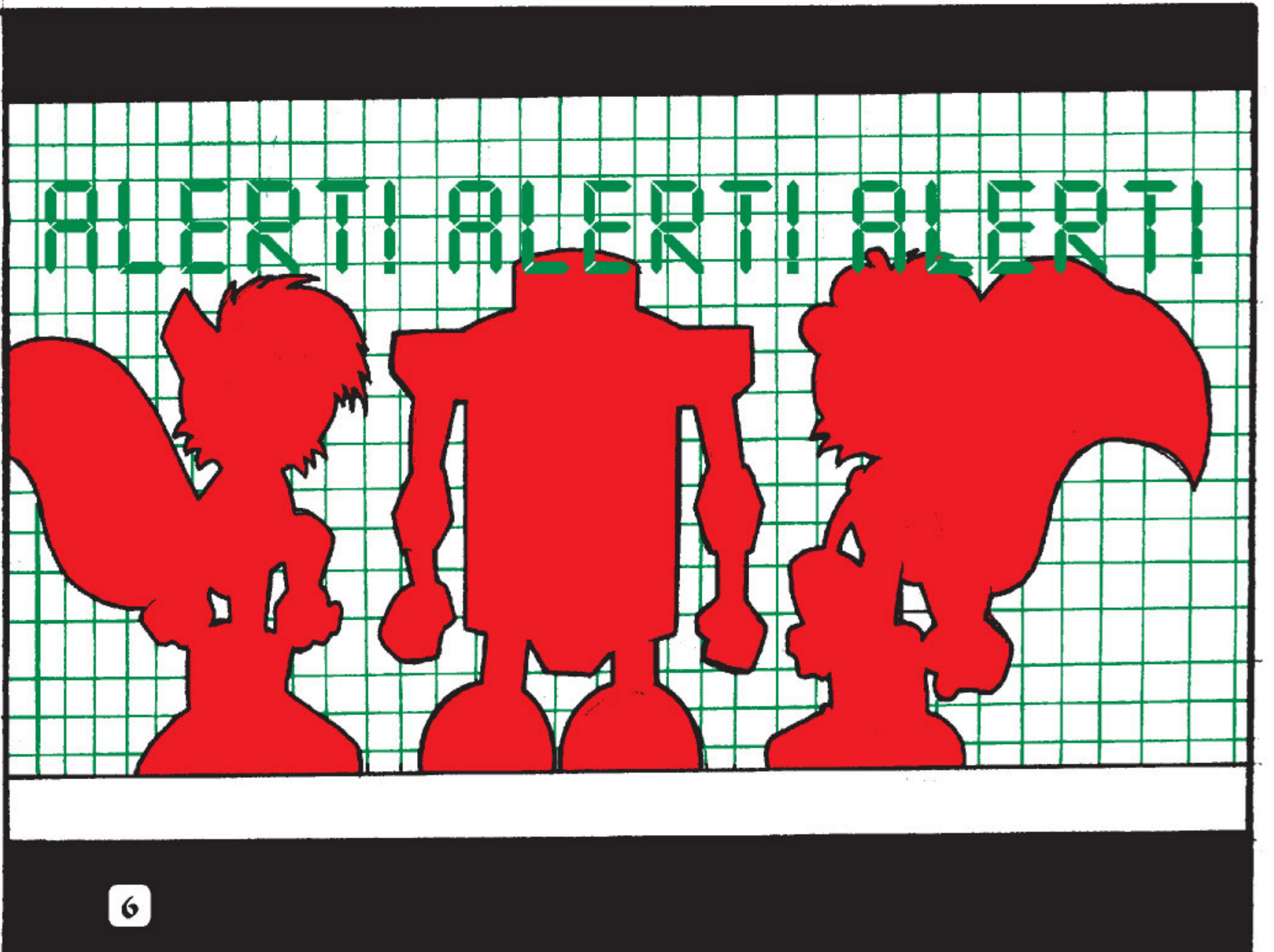
STILL, I FEEL AS IF WE'RE BEING WATCHED...

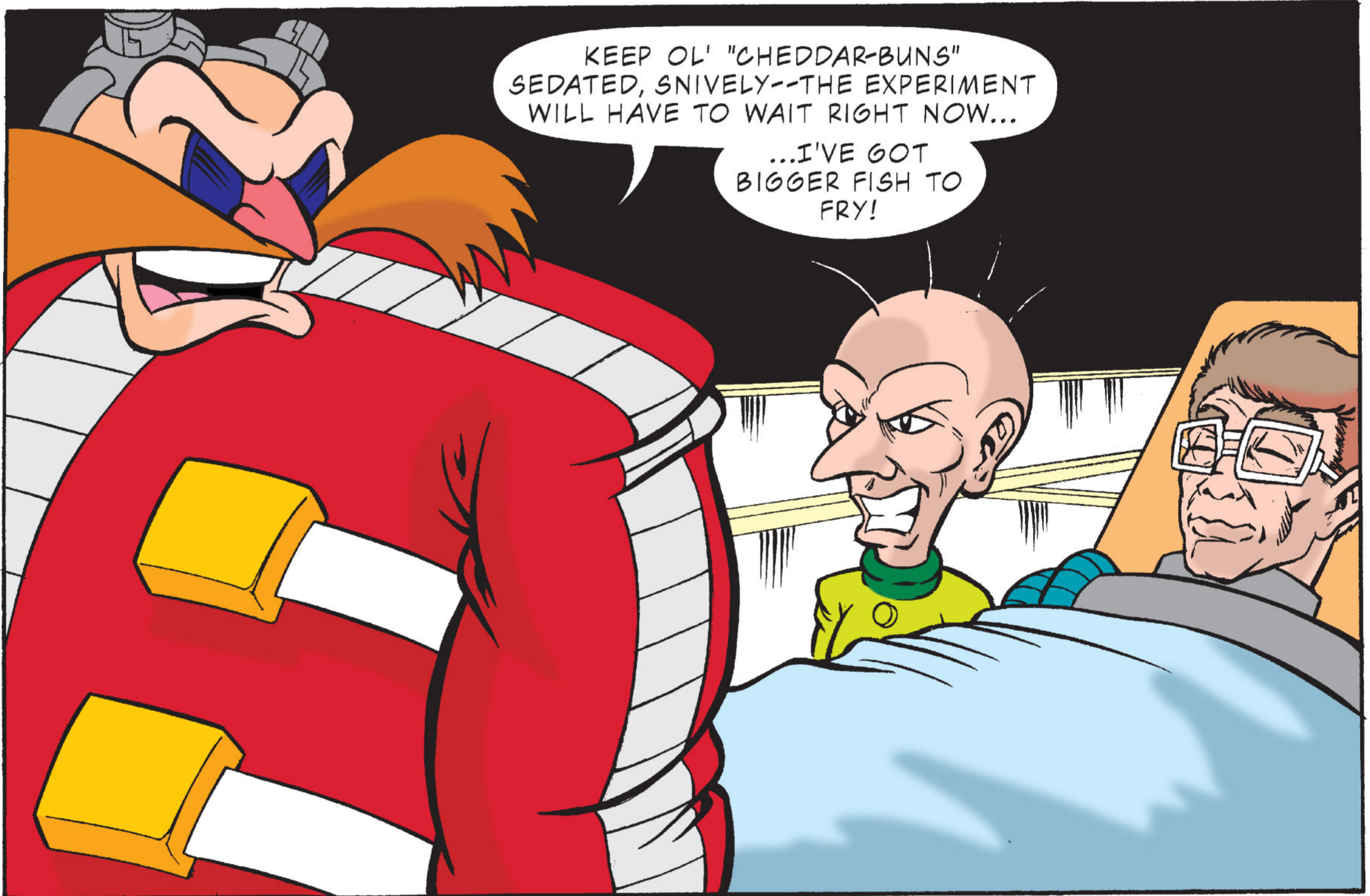
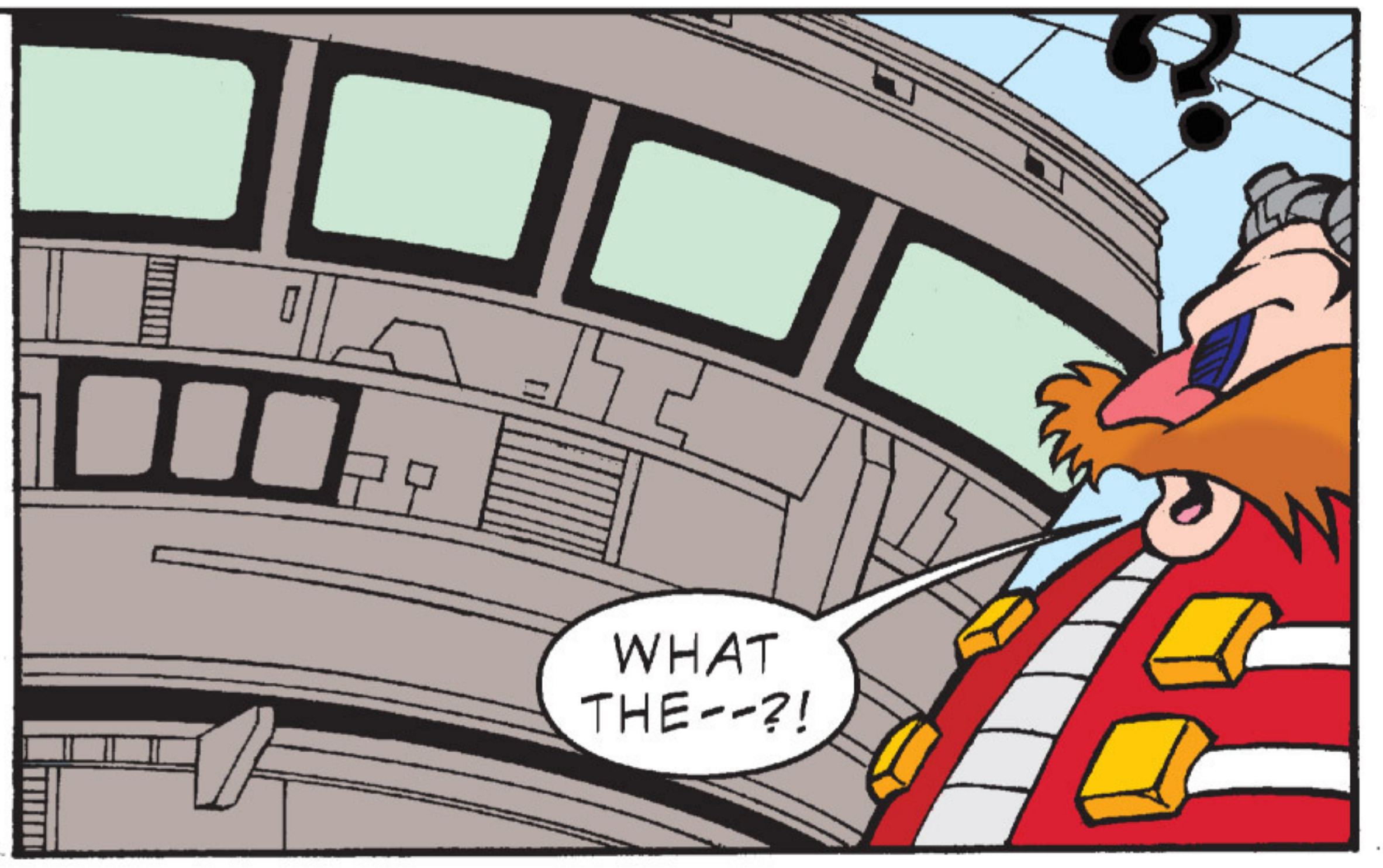
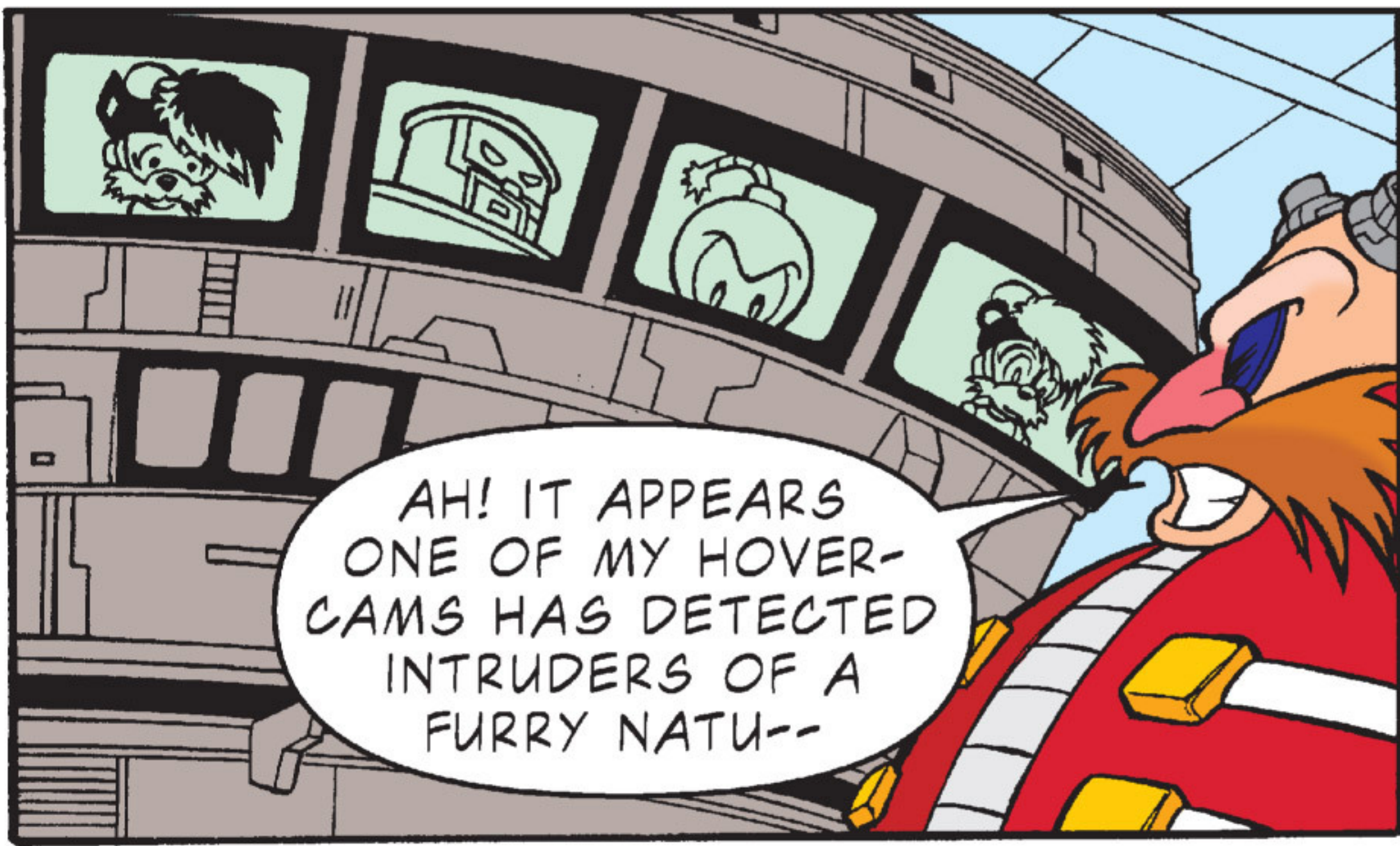


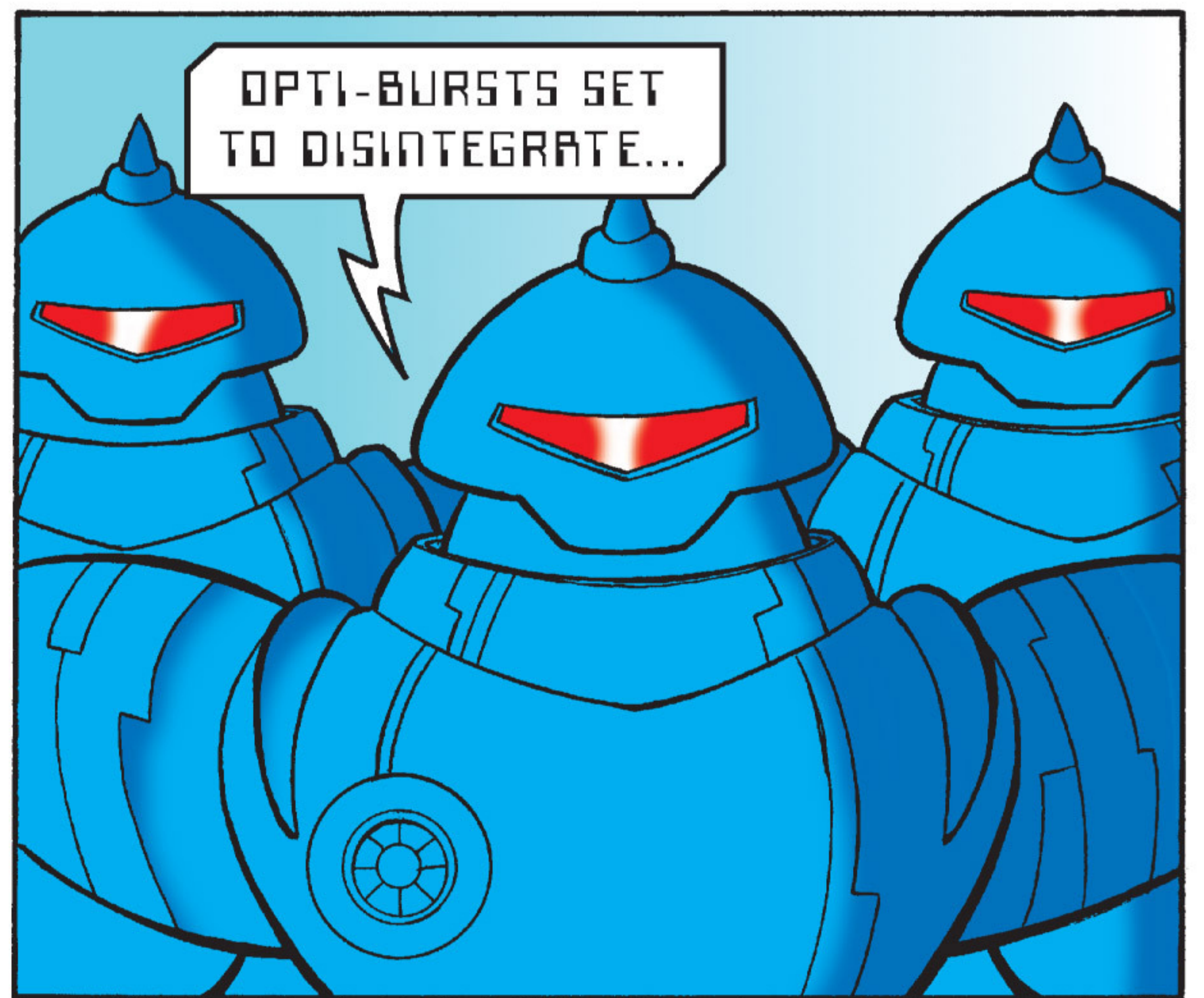
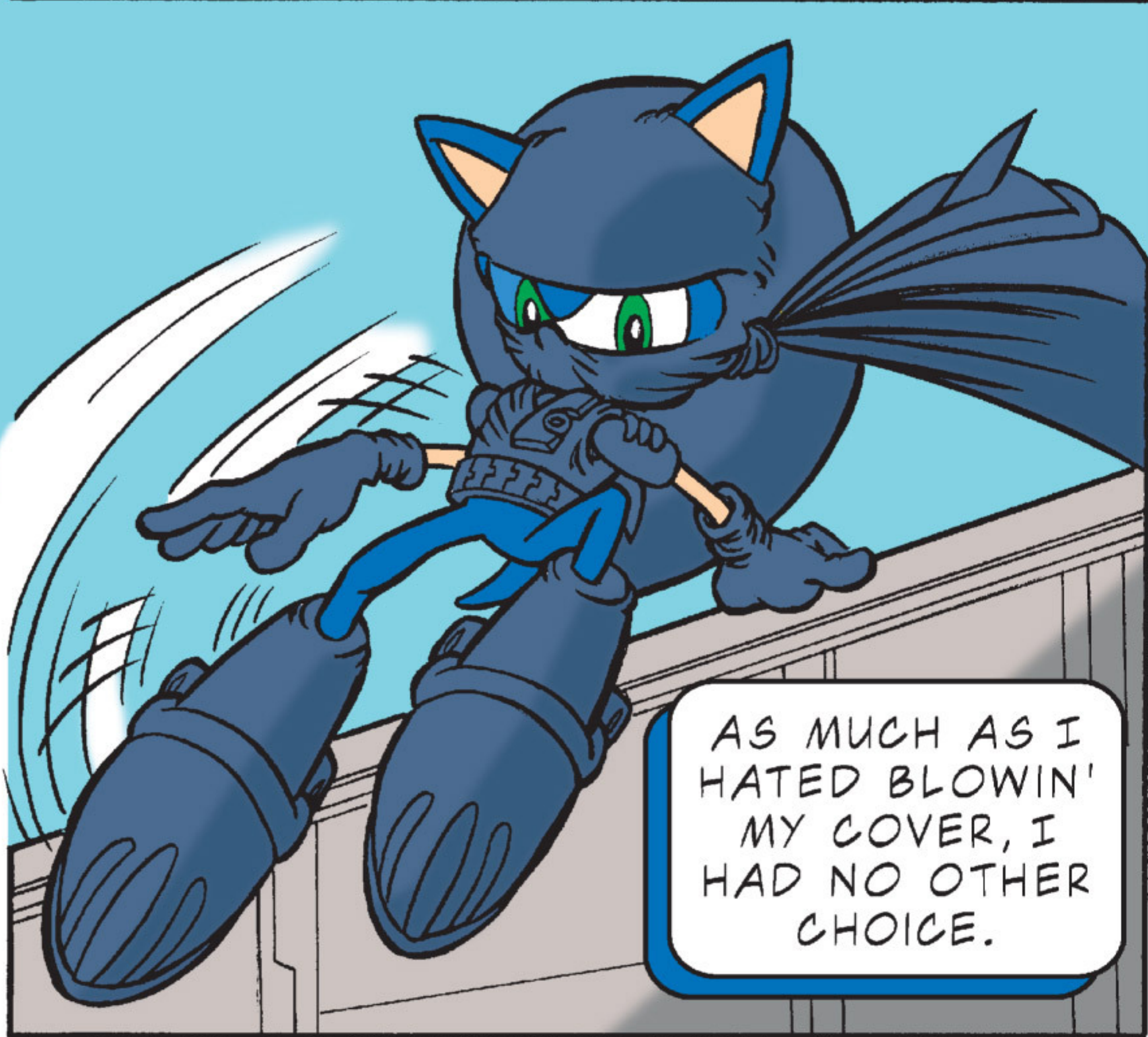
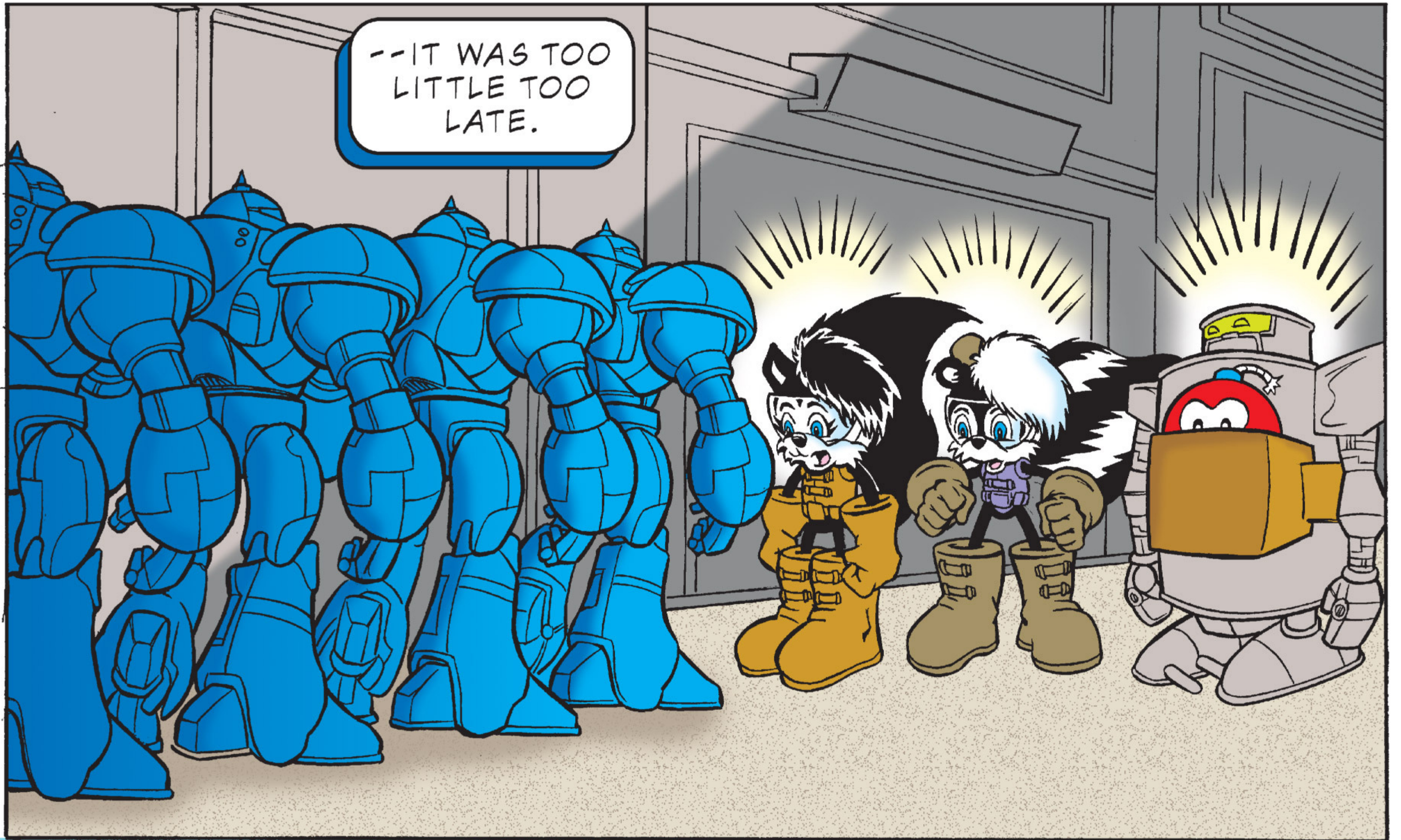
I MEAN, SOMEBODY HAD TO KEEP GEOFFREY AND HIS CREW OUTTA TROUBLE, RIGHT?



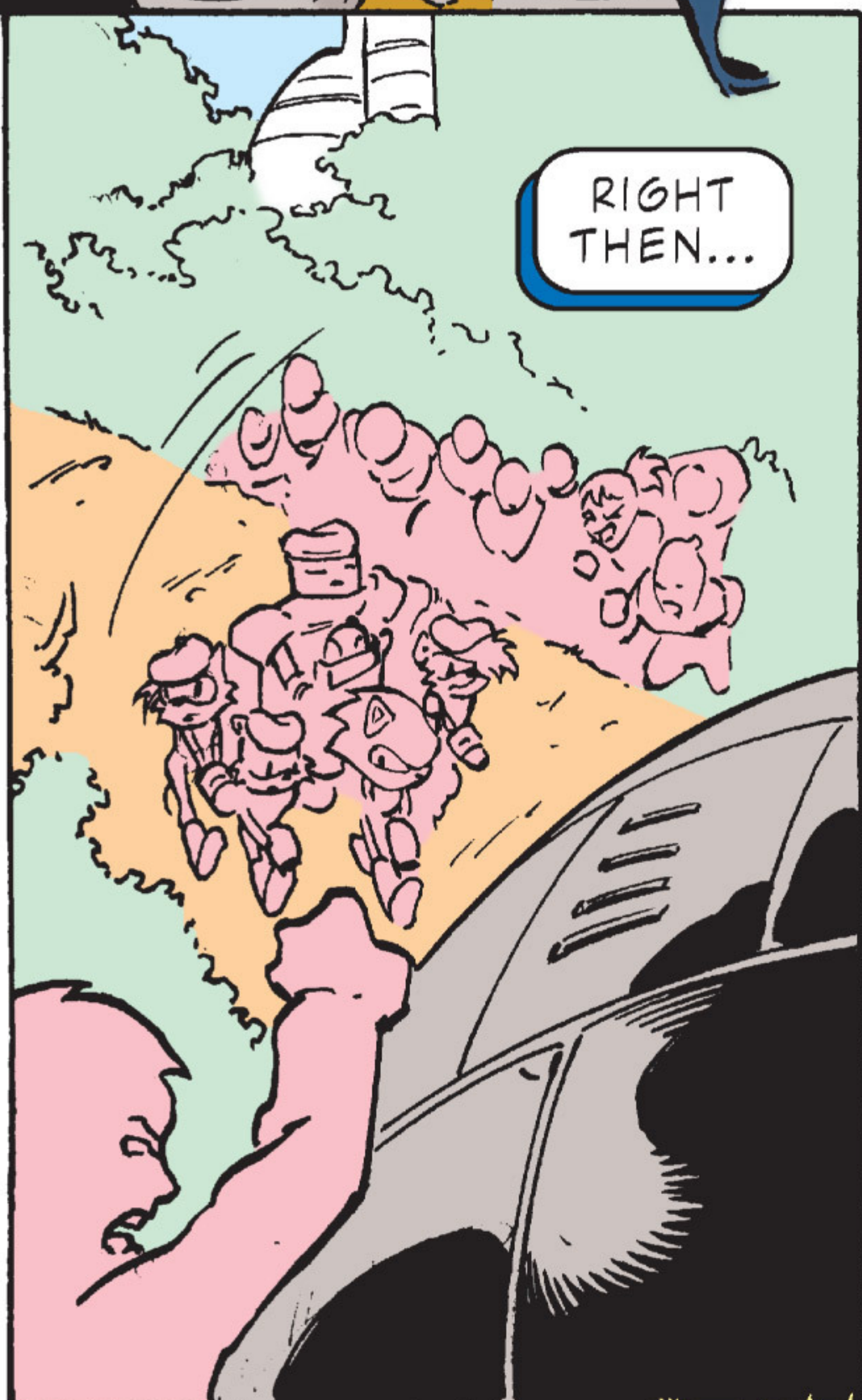
WE'RE ALMOST THERE--KEEP MOVING.



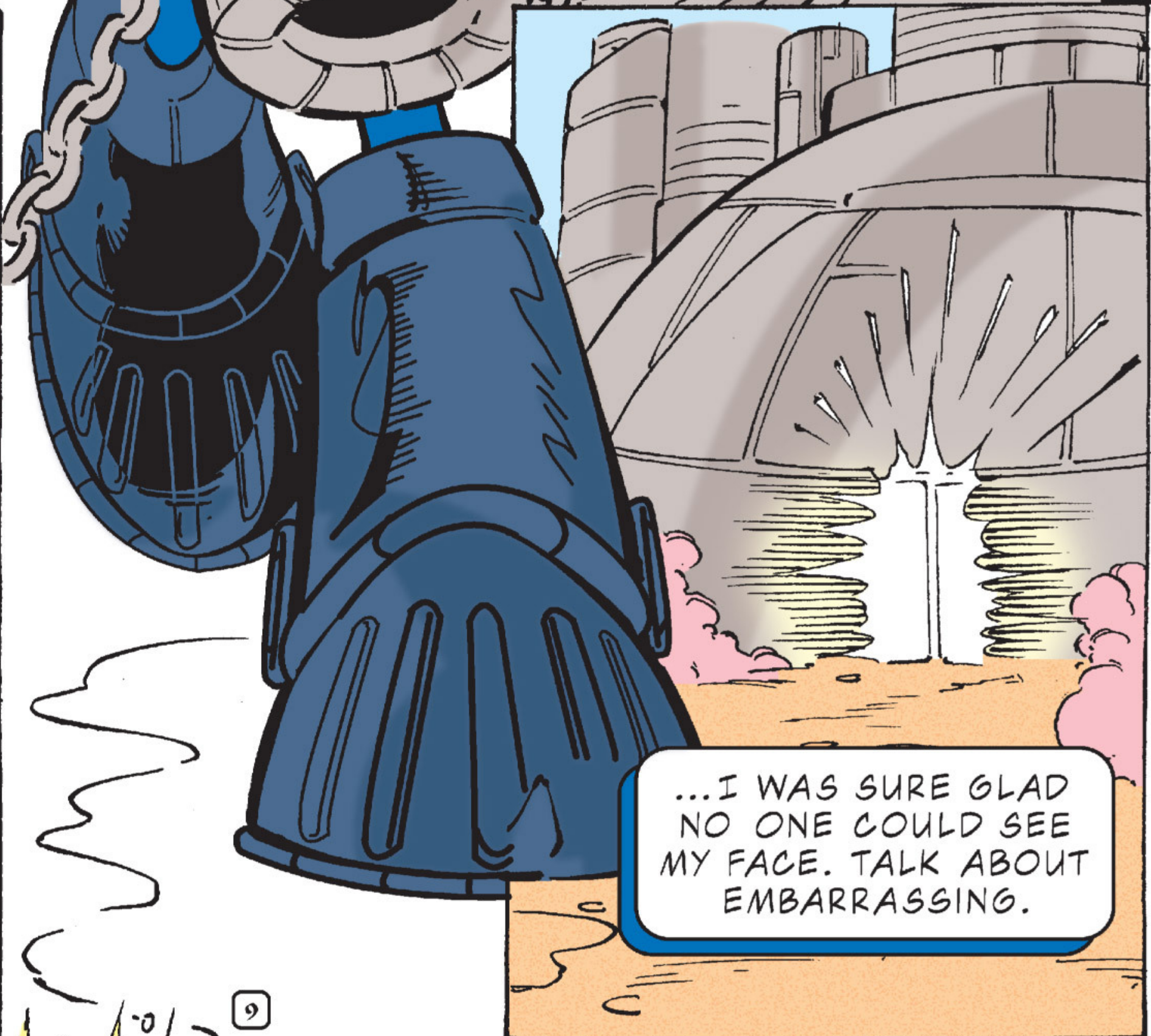




**BOOO! DOWN
WITH THE FURRIES!**



RIGHT THEN...



...I WAS SURE GLAD NO ONE COULD SEE MY FACE. TALK ABOUT EMBARRASSING.

SO, WHO ARE YOU?
AND WHAT WERE YOU
DOING IN THAT
ALLEYWAY?

I'M...THE SNEAK, A
FREEDOM FIGHTER FROM...
SANDBLAST CITY. I WAS DOIN'
SOME RECONNAISSANCE.

"WELCOME" TO ROBOTROPOLIS!
YOU, OF COURSE, KNOW ME, BUT
I DON'T KNOW YOU.

I BELIEVE AN
INTERROGATION IS
IN ORDER, STARTING
WITH...

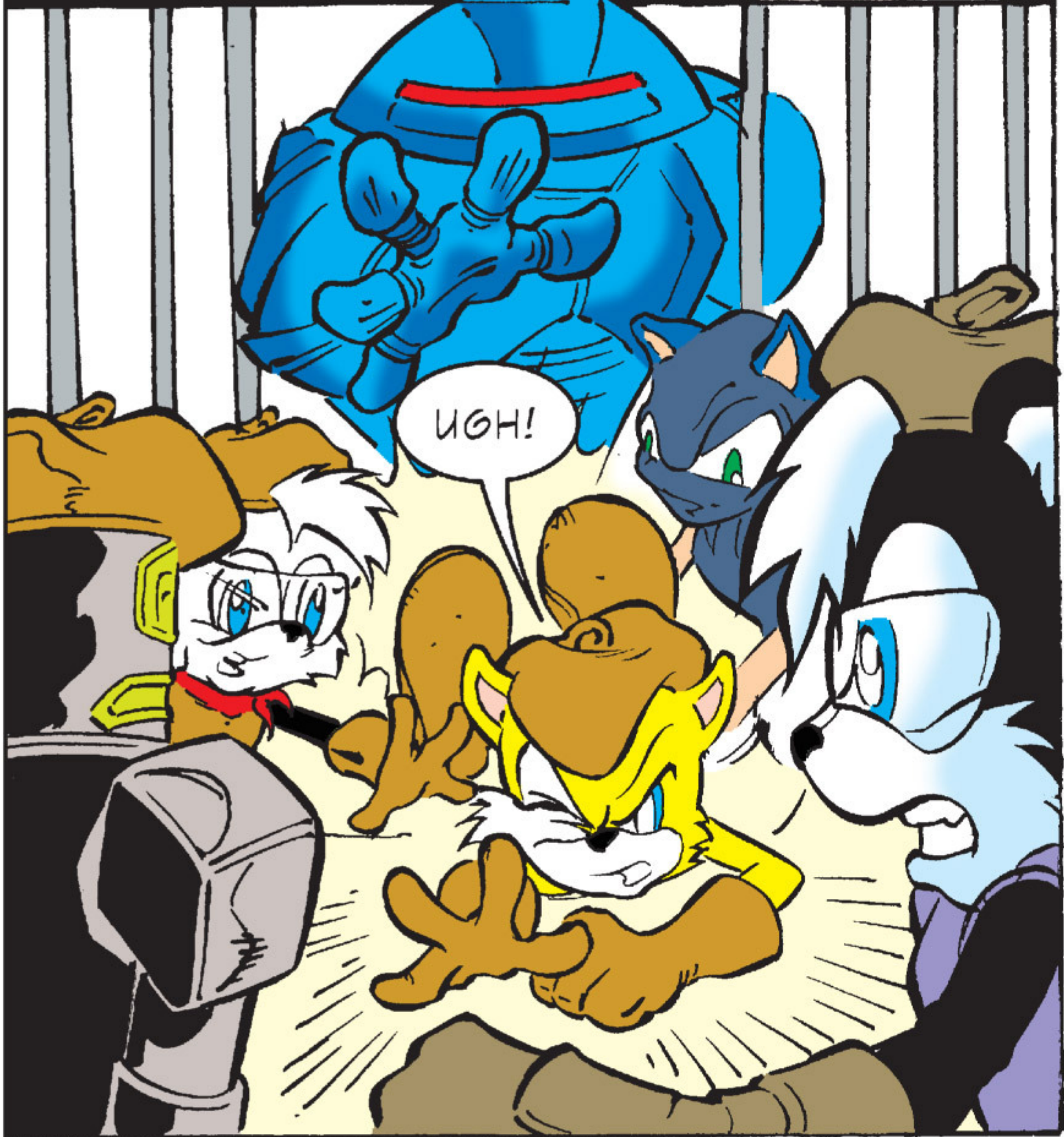
...YOU!

AND THAT'S
HOW IT
WENT. FIRST
GEOFFREY...

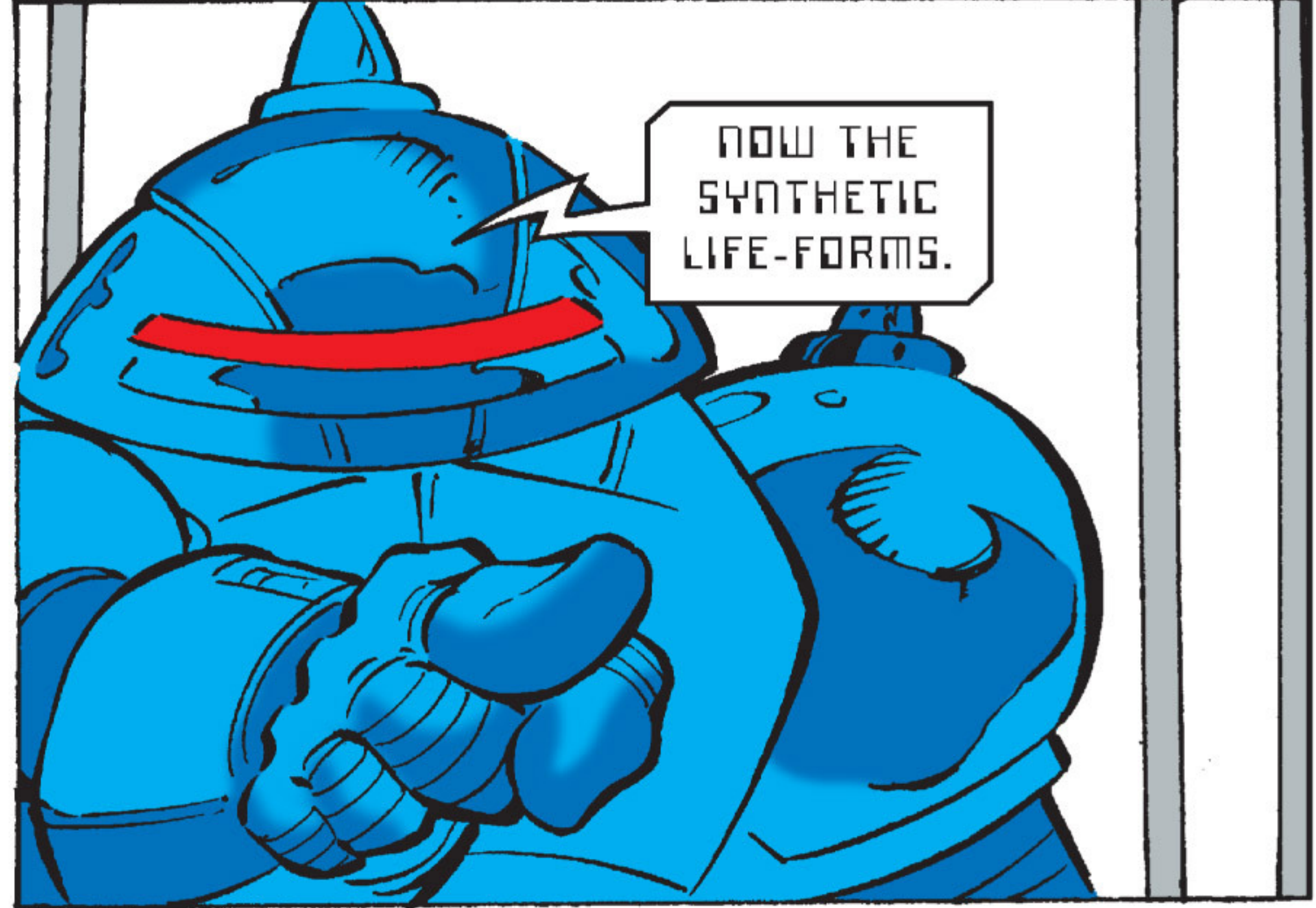
...THEN
HERSHEY...



...FOLLOWED BY WOMBAT STU. I COULDN'T RISK BEING UNMASKED BY "BUTT-NIK".



UGH!



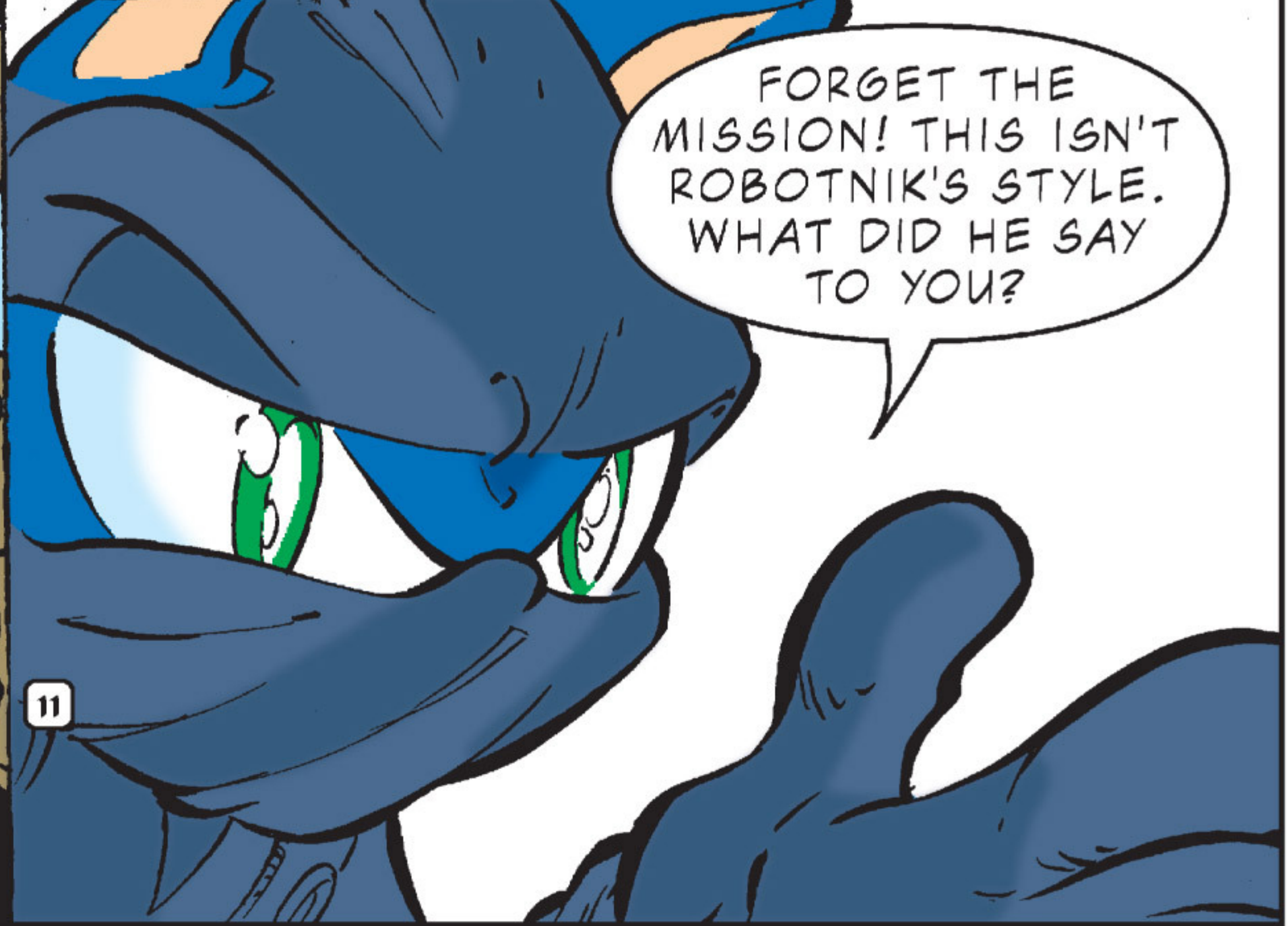
NOW THE SYNTHETIC LIFE-FORMS.



WE'VE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE, LIKE, YESTERDAY!



I'M IN CHARGE HERE, AND WE'RE HERE TO COMPLETE A MISSION!



FORGET THE MISSION! THIS ISN'T ROBOTNIK'S STYLE. WHAT DID HE SAY TO YOU?



HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING--HE WASN'T EVEN THERE. I JUST COOLED MY HEELS IN ANOTHER CELL.



WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE NOW. YOUR BUDS CAN'T BE ROBOTICIZED. THEY'RE ALREADY ROBOTS!

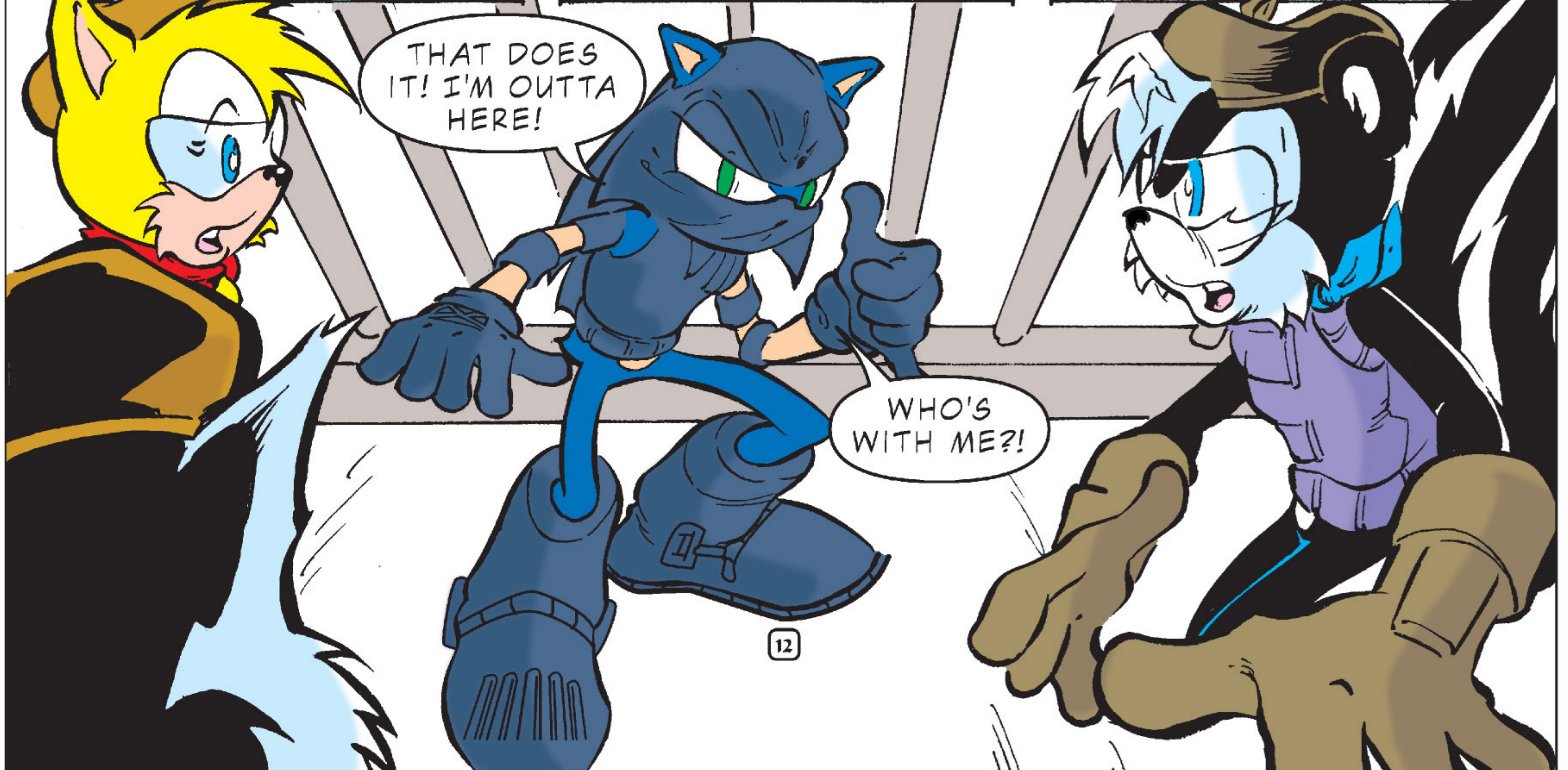


WE DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO THINGS IN SANDBLAST, BUT HERE WE DON'T LEAVE FRIENDS BEHIND!

THE EGGMAN'S UP TO SOMETHING AND--

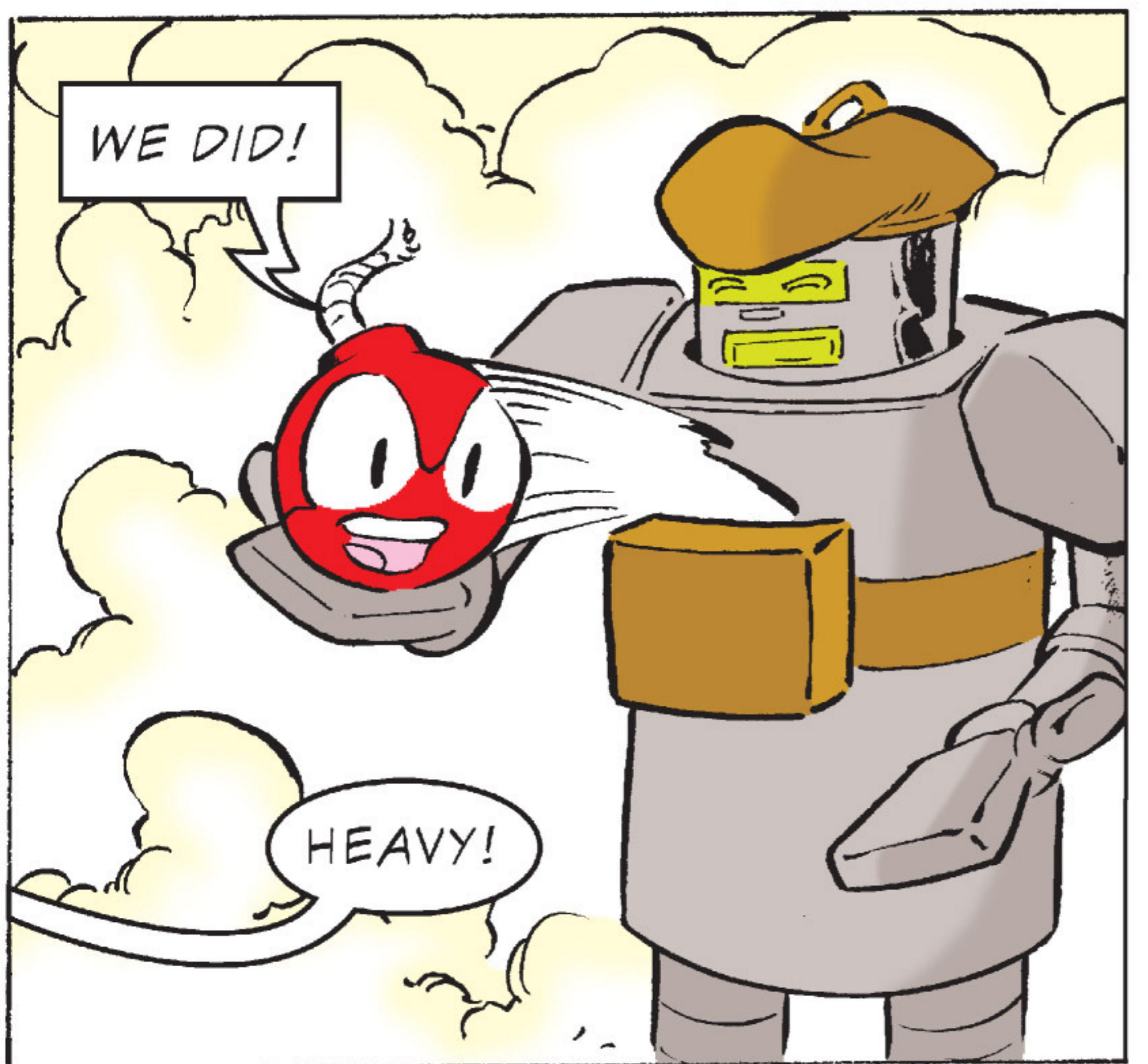


MAYBE YOU'RE JUST AFRAID OF WHAT'LL HAPPEN WHEN THEY TAKE YOU, COWARD!

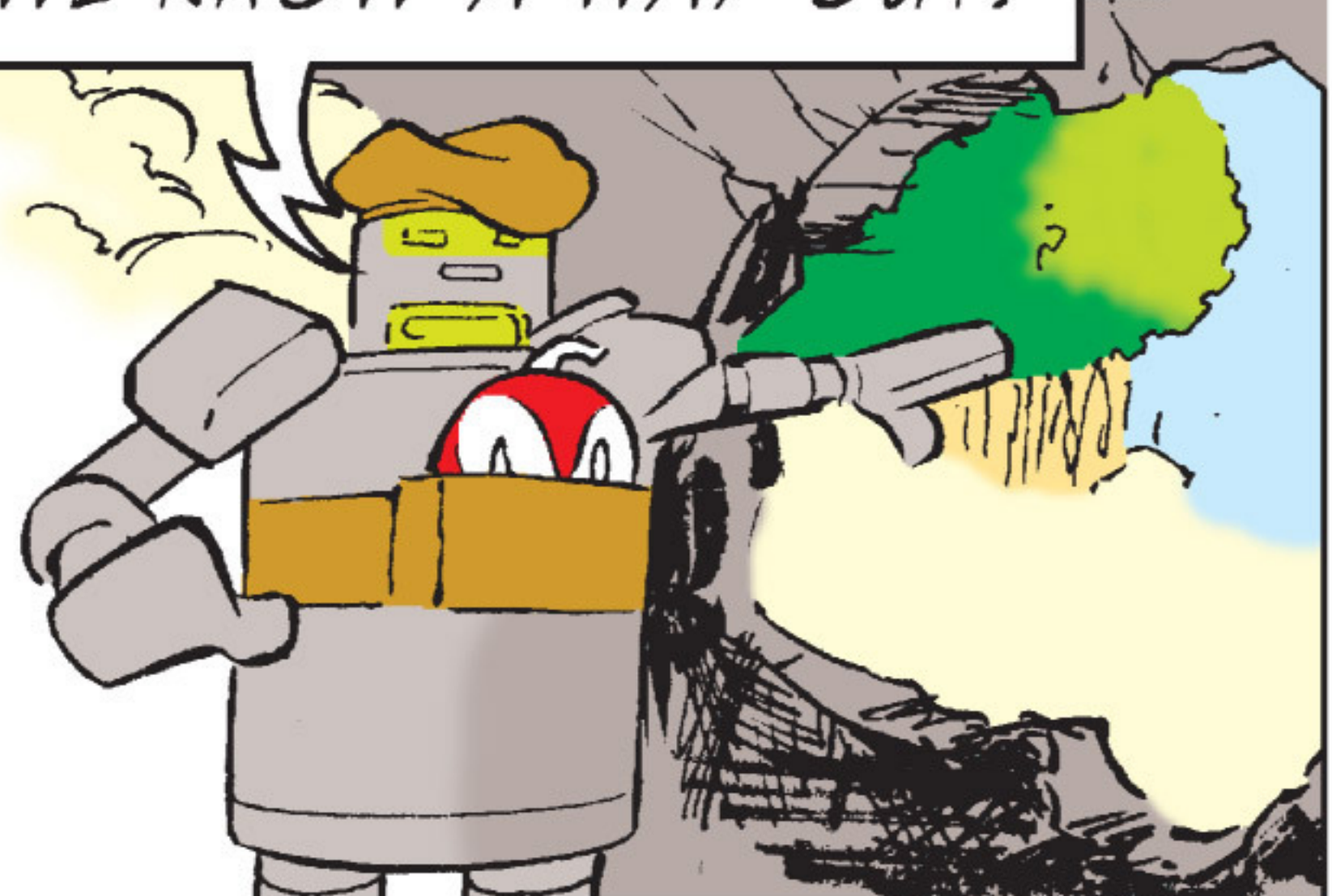
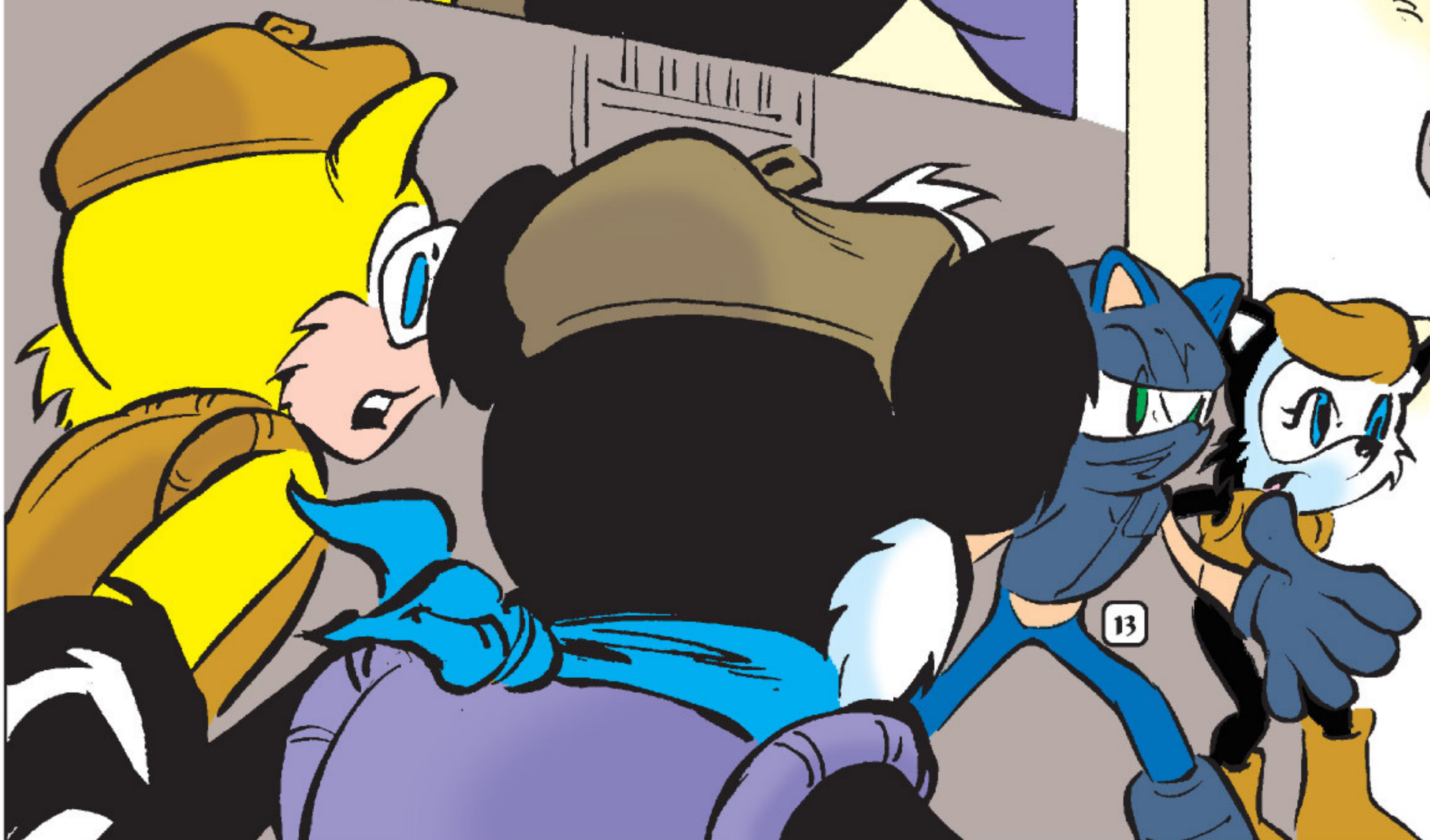
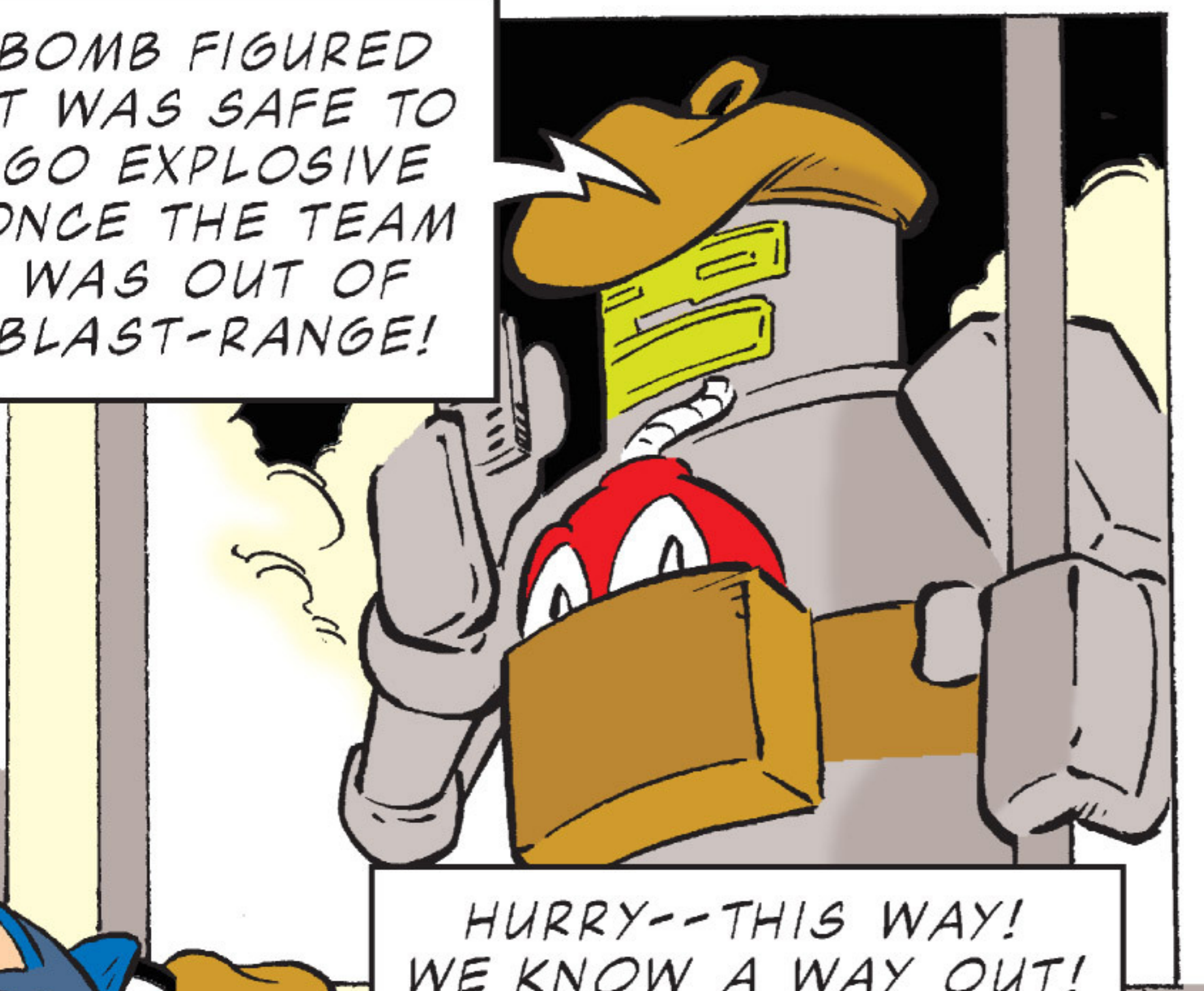


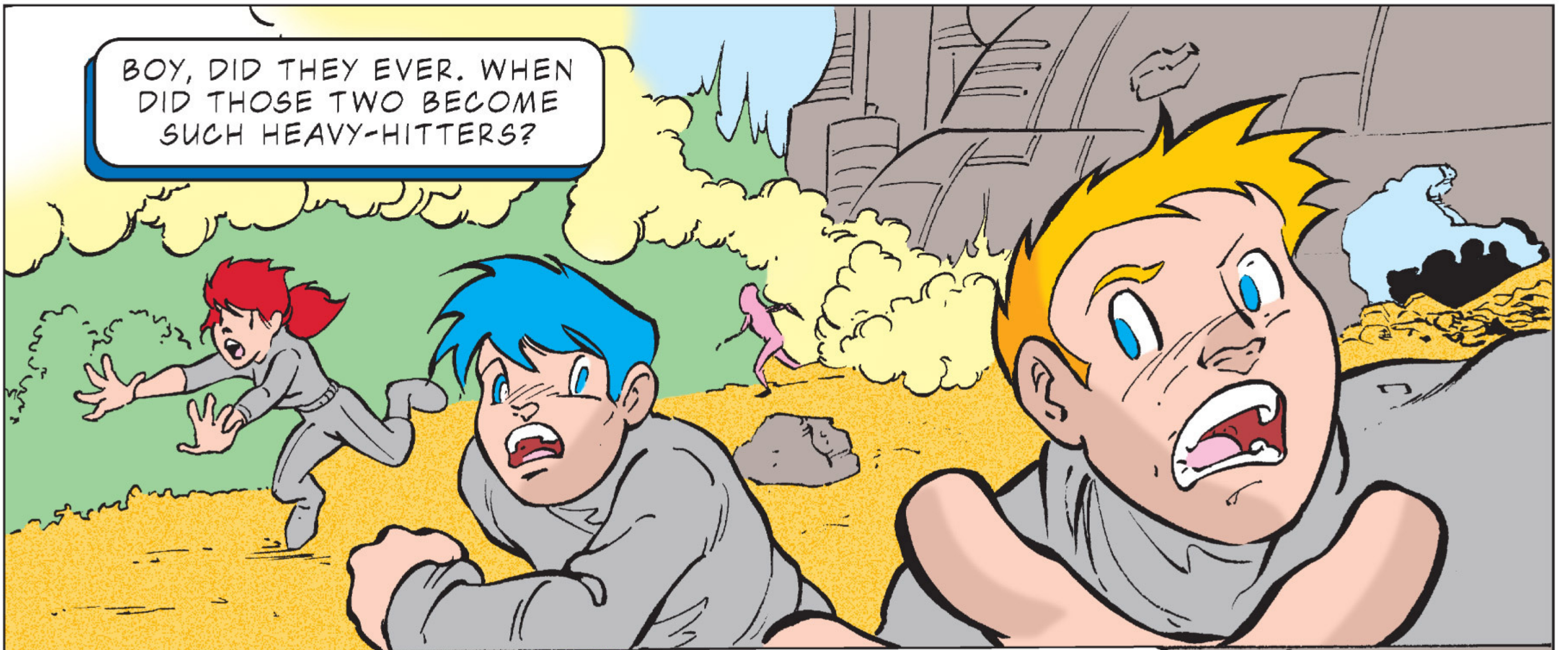
THAT DOES IT! I'M OUTTA HERE!

WHO'S WITH ME?!



BOMB FIGURED IT WAS SAFE TO GO EXPLOSIVE ONCE THE TEAM WAS OUT OF BLAST-RANGE!





BOY, DID THEY EVER. WHEN DID THOSE TWO BECOME SUCH HEAVY-HITTERS?

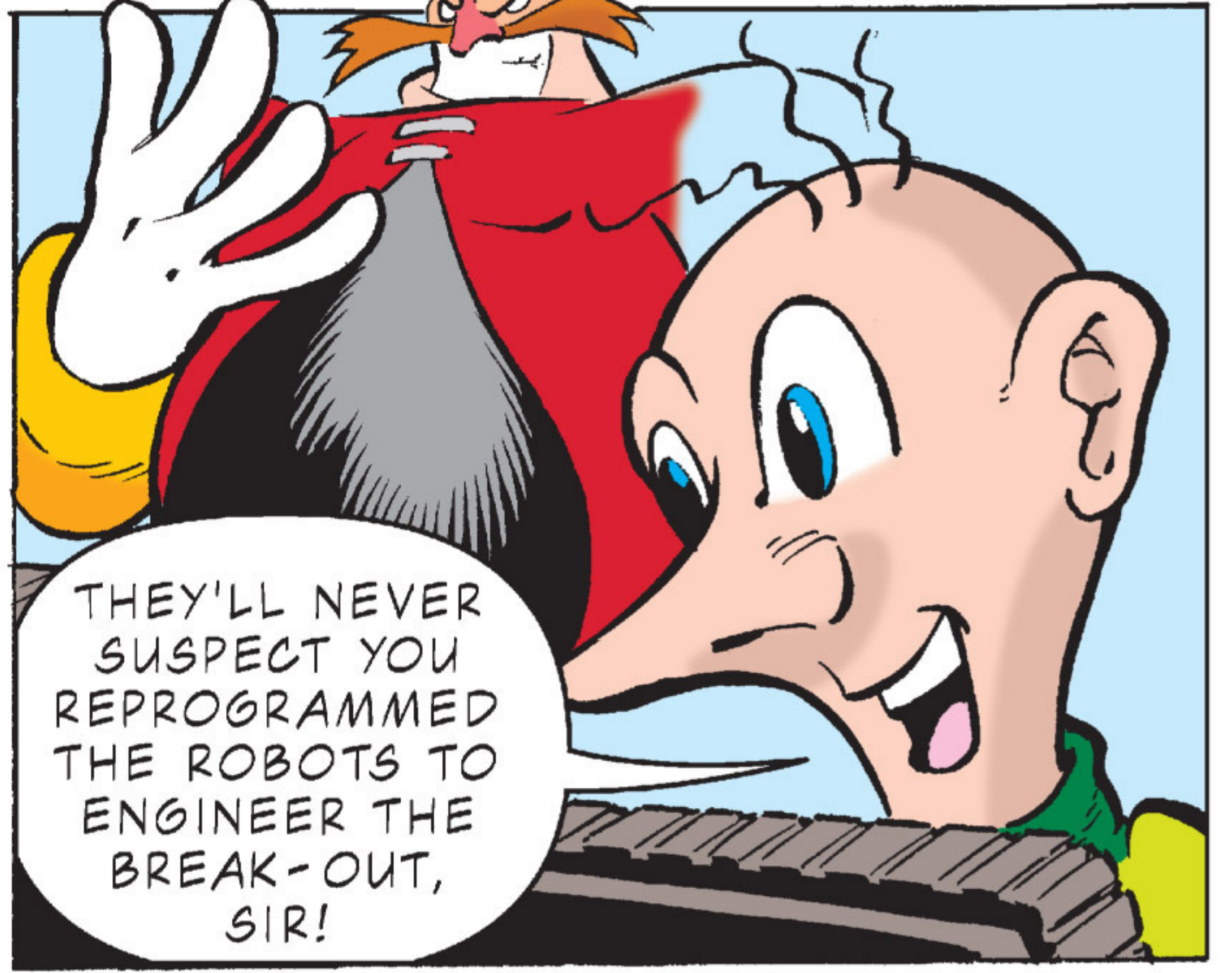


WE MADE IT! I HOPE THIS PROVES SOMETHING, "SNEAK!" HIS MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE ALWAYS --



WHERE DID HE GO?

WHO WAS THAT MASKED HEDGEHOG?



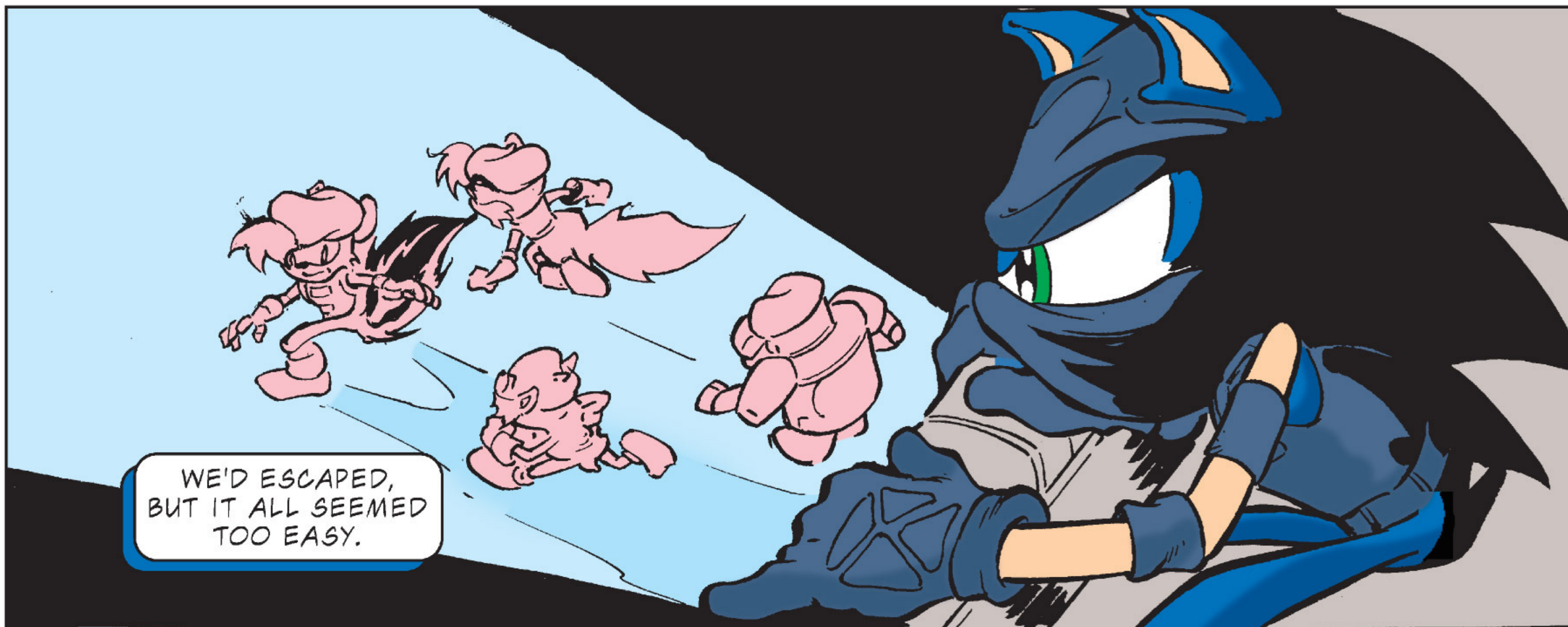
THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT YOU REPROGRAMMED THE ROBOTS TO ENGINEER THE BREAK-OUT, SIR!



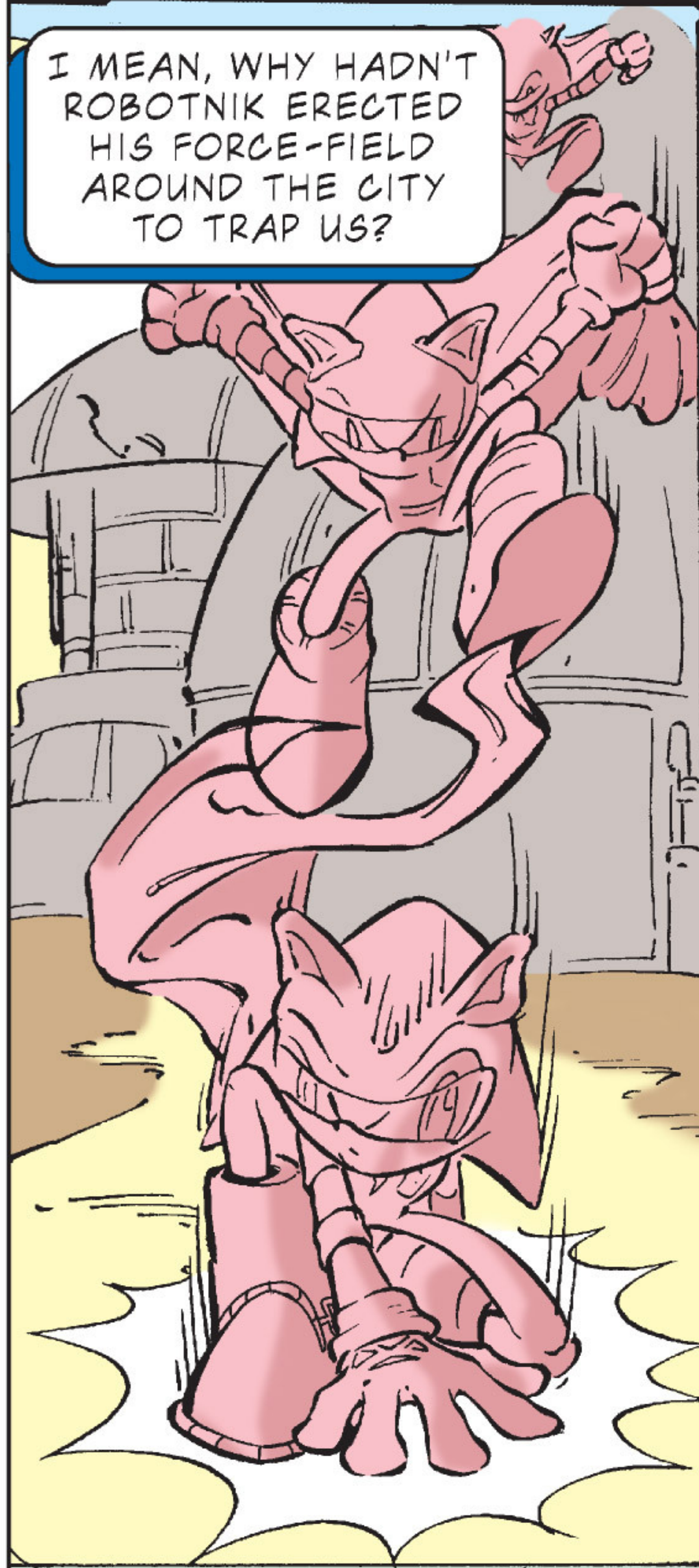
OH, I REPROGRAMMED THEM TO DO MUCH MORE THAN THAT! HO! HO! HO! HO!



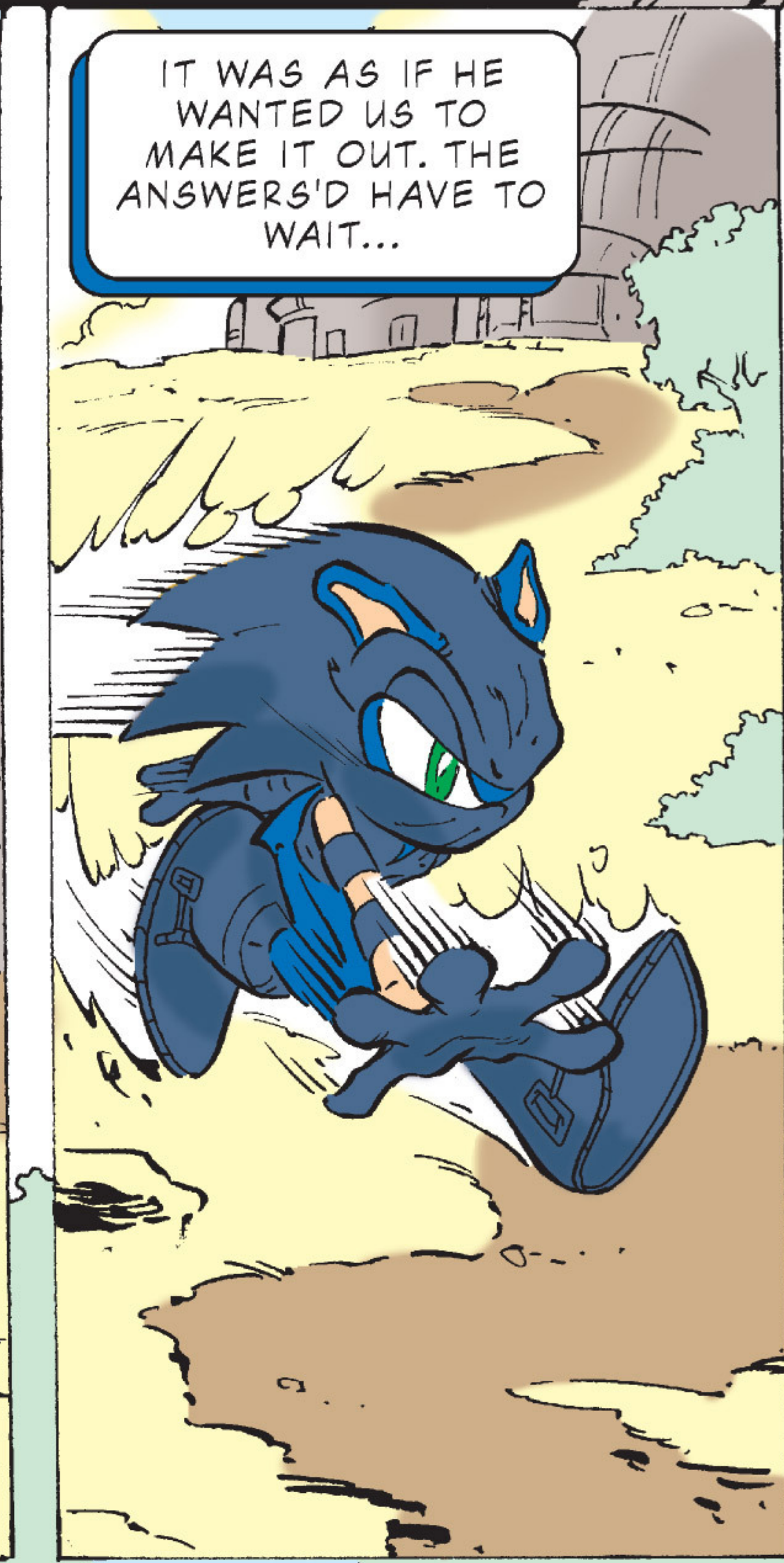
WE DIDN'T RETRIEVE THE SWORD, BUT AT LEAST WE'RE SAFE! LET'S GO!



WE'D ESCAPED,
BUT IT ALL SEEMED
TOO EASY.



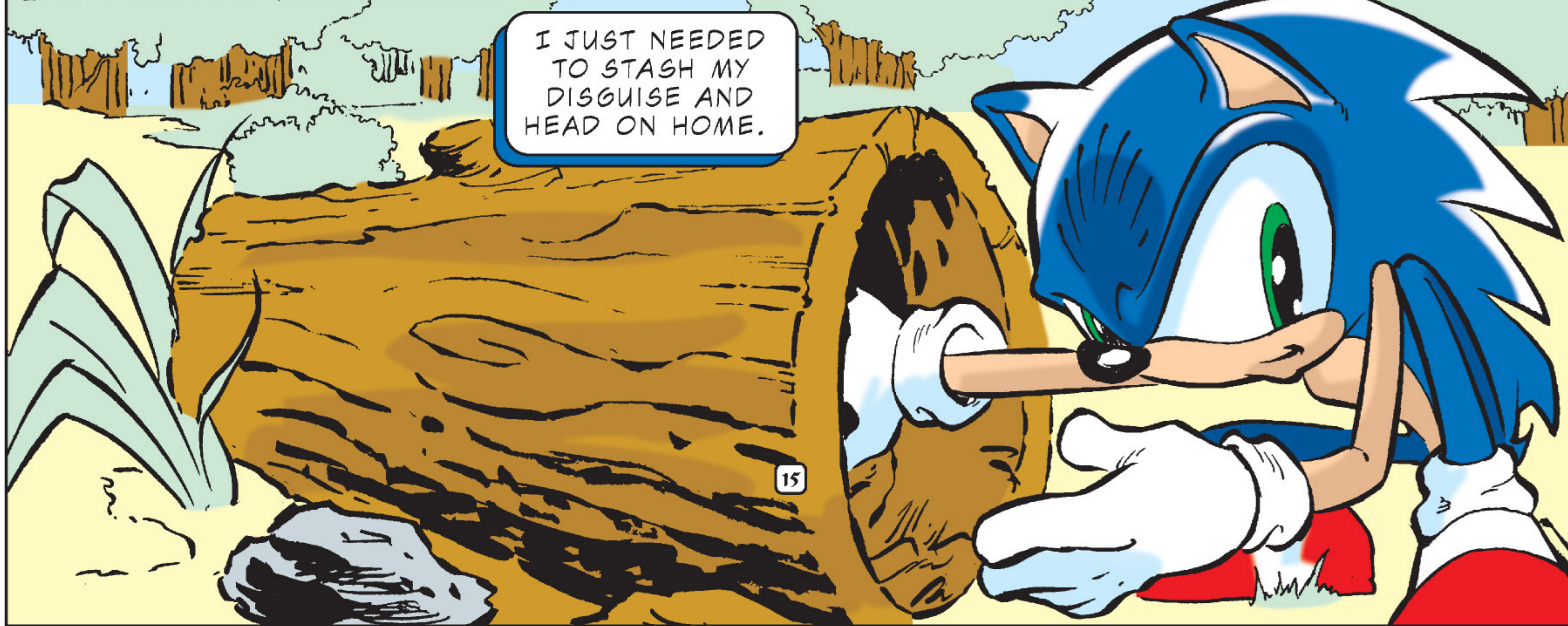
I MEAN, WHY HADN'T
ROBOTNIK ERECTED
HIS FORCE-FIELD
AROUND THE CITY
TO TRAP US?



IT WAS AS IF HE
WANTED US TO
MAKE IT OUT. THE
ANSWERS'D HAVE TO
WAIT...



...AT THAT
MOMENT, I HAD
TO BEAT GEOFFREY
AND COMPANY BACK
TO KNOTHOLE.



I JUST NEEDED
TO STASH MY
DISGUISE AND
HEAD ON HOME.

**FREEZE,
HEDGEHOG!**
YOU'RE COMING
WITH US!

BUT IT LOOKED
LIKE SOMEBODY
HAD MADE OTHER
PLANS FOR ME.

NEXT:

**SONIC
ADVENTURE 2!**



HE WAS BORN TO BE NONE OTHER THAN THE GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, BUT NOW

KNUCKLES

IS EVOLVING INTO SOMETHING MORE-- MUCH MORE--

--AND NOW, IN A FLASH OF INTENSE PAIN, HE LASHES OUT, AS TURBO-TAILS STEPS FORWARD TO DEAL WITH HIS FRIEND...

YOU DON'T GET OUT OF MY FACE RIGHT NOW, TURBO-RUNT--

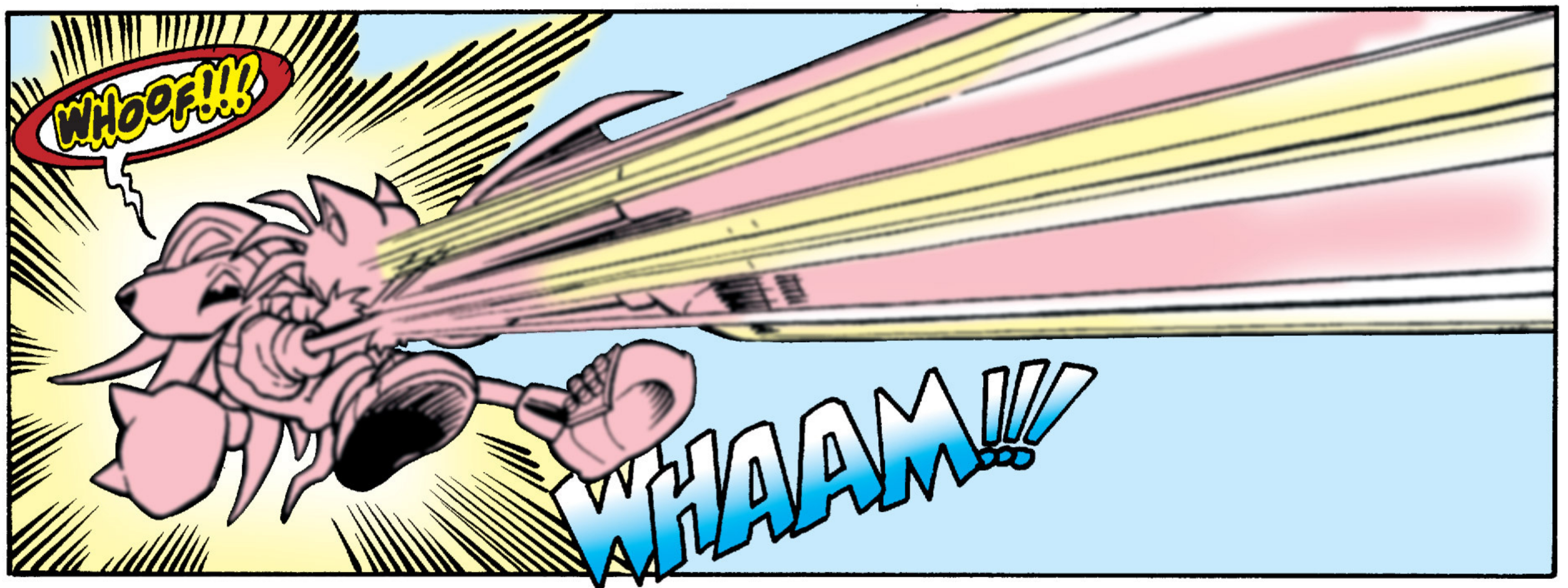
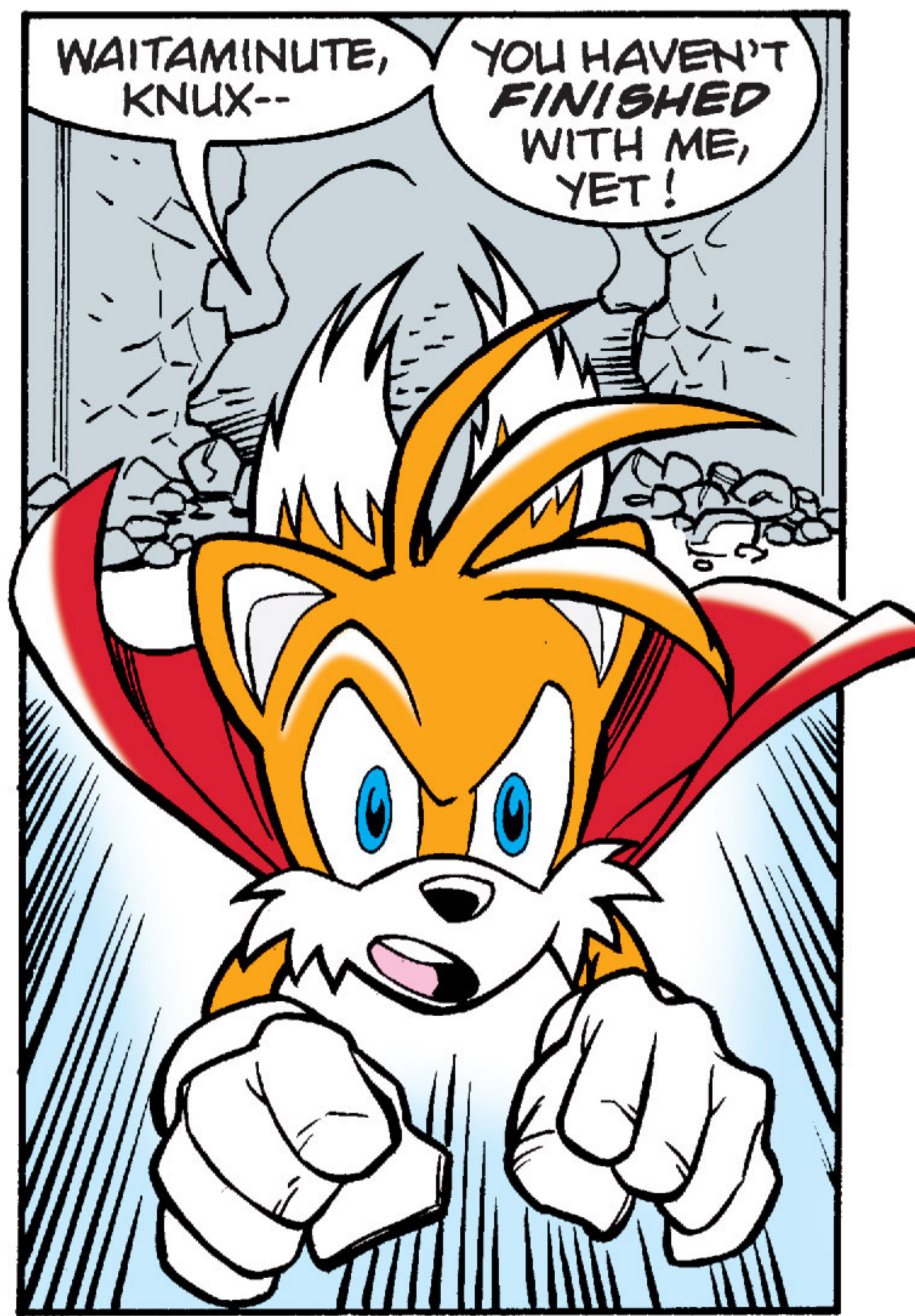
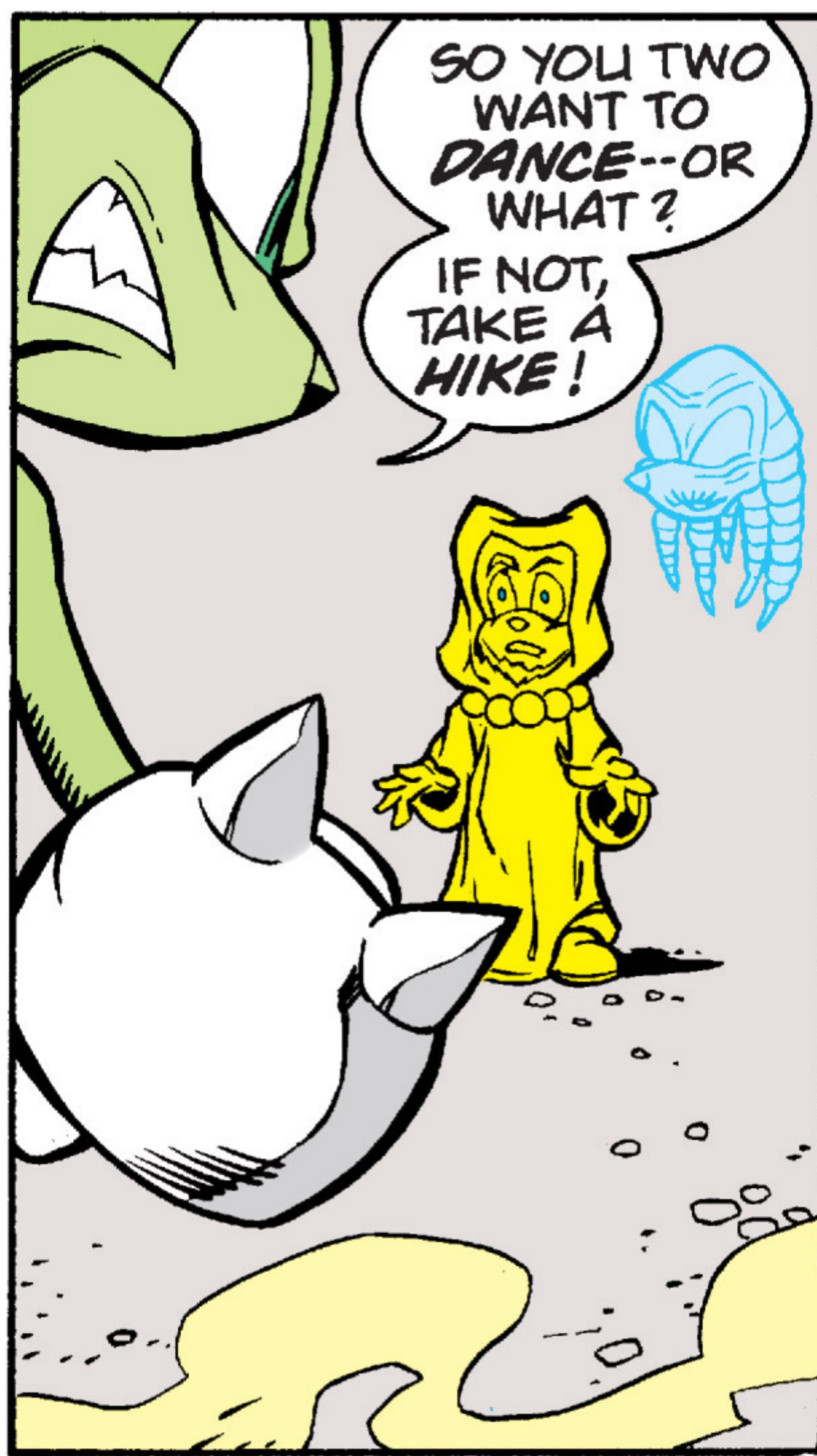
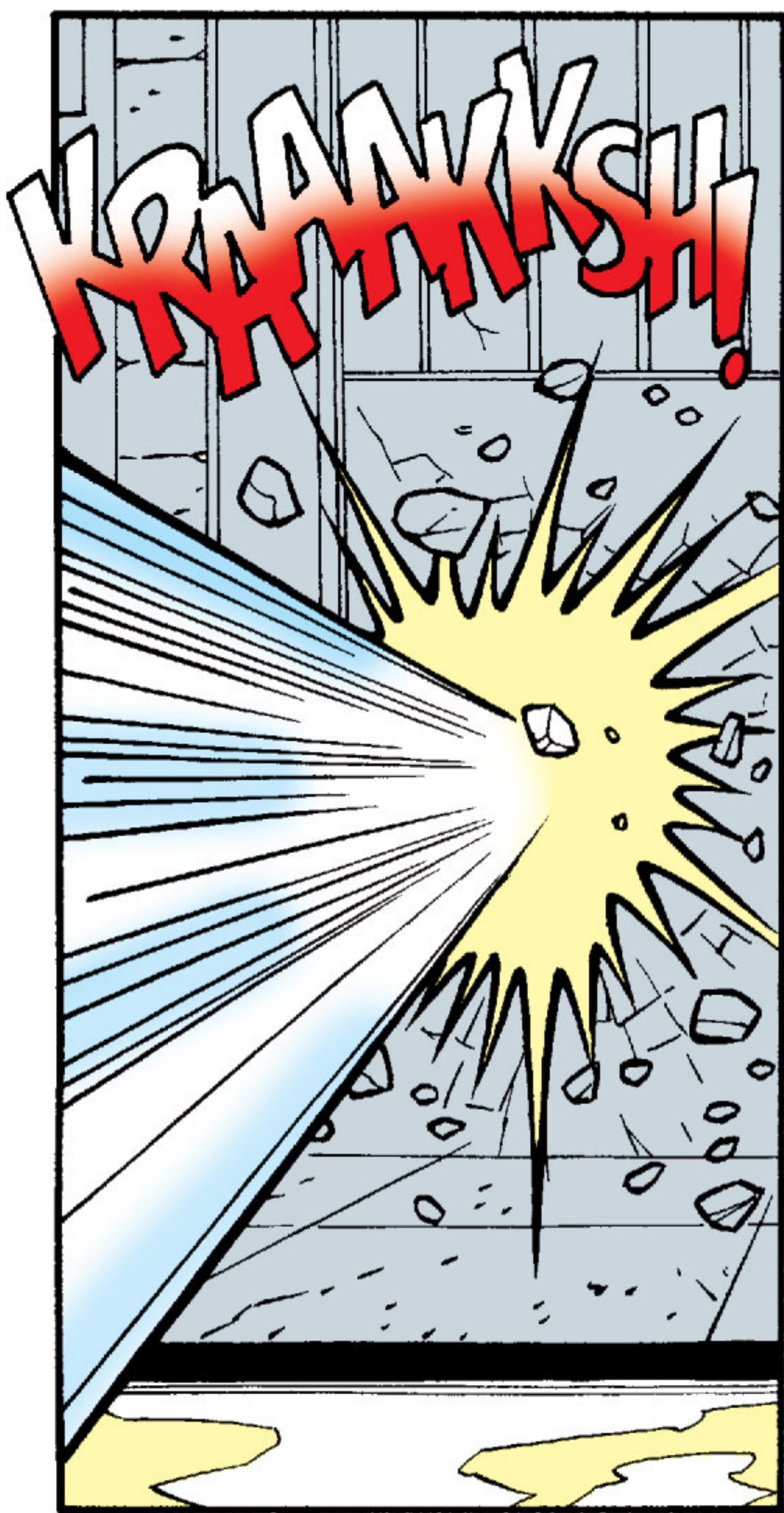
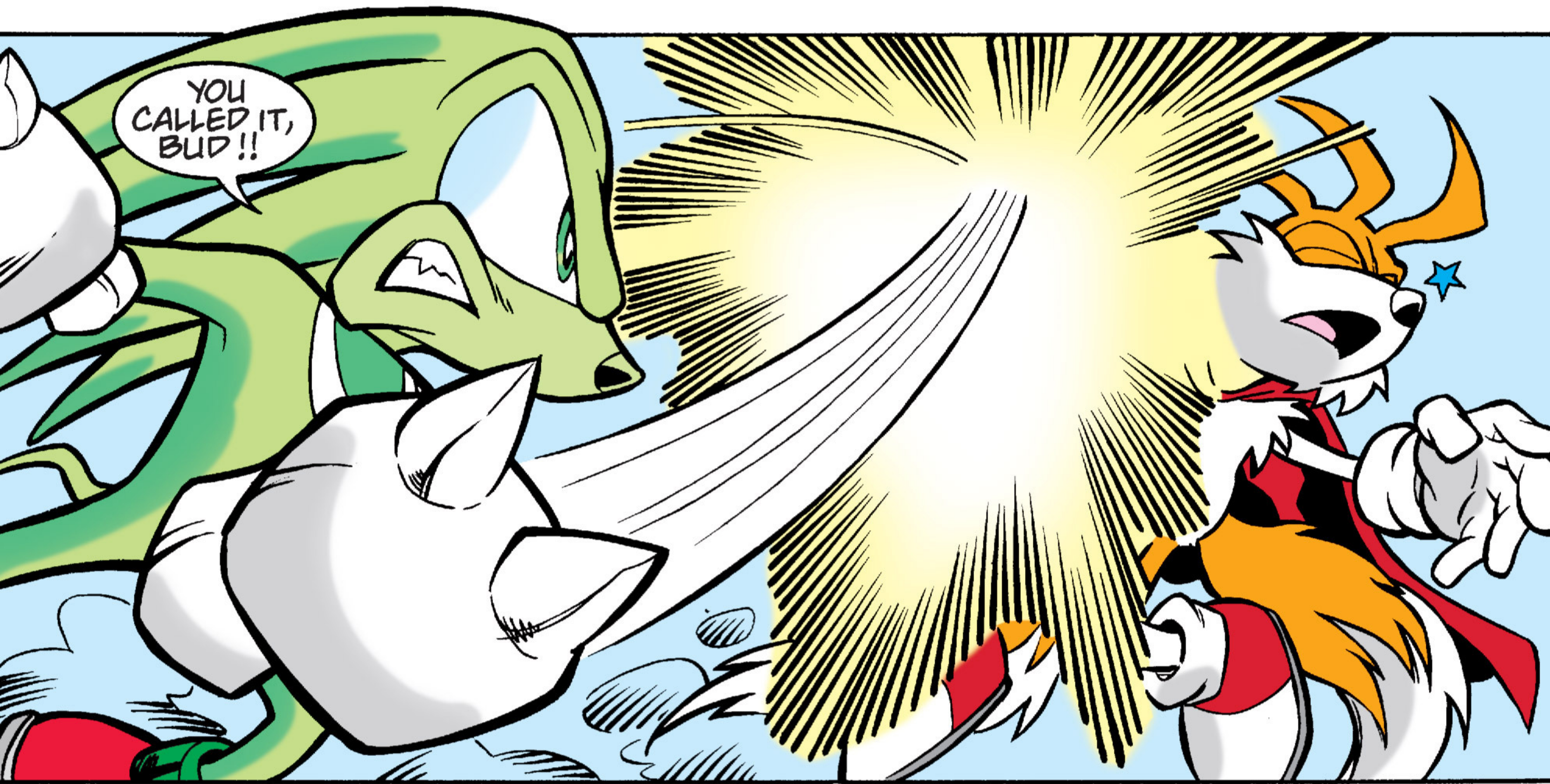
--WE'RE GOING TO DO SOME SERIOUS RUMBLING!

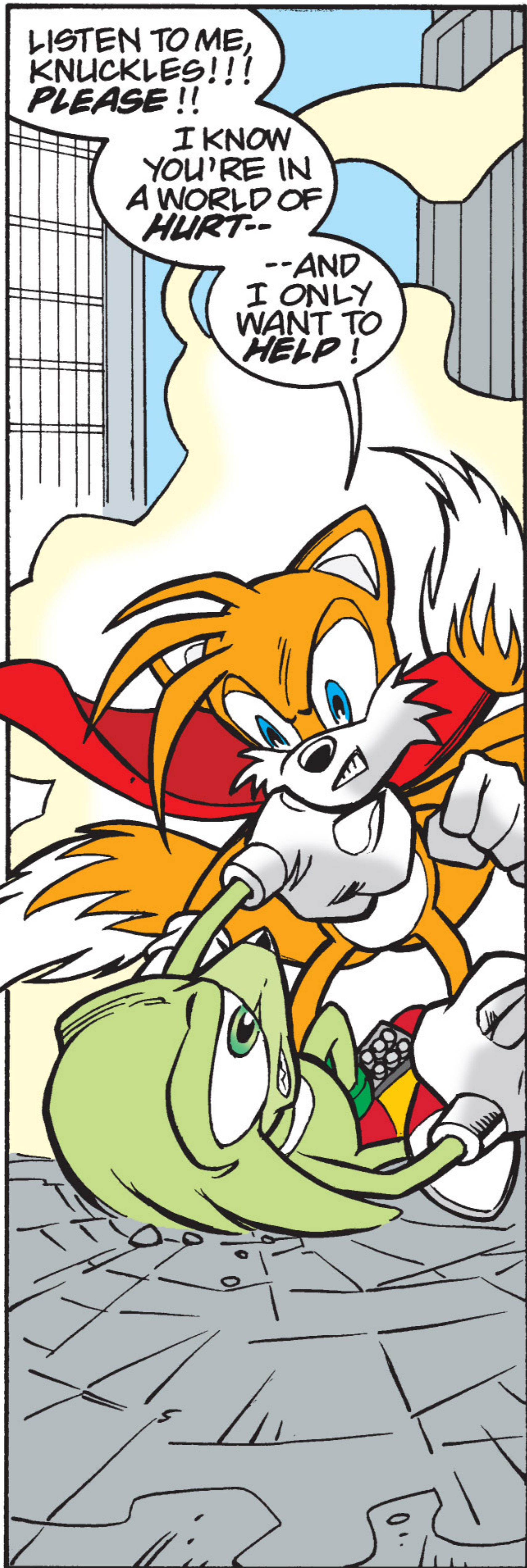
I HATE TO STRIKE AN ECHIDNA WHEN HE'S DOWN--

--BUT I'LL DO IT IF I HAVE TO FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, KNUCKLES!

TO THE BRINK

WRITER/INKER: KEN PENDERS PENCILLER: RON LIM LETTERER: VICKIE WILLIAMS
COLORIST: FRANK GAGLIARDO EDITOR: JUSTIN GABRIE

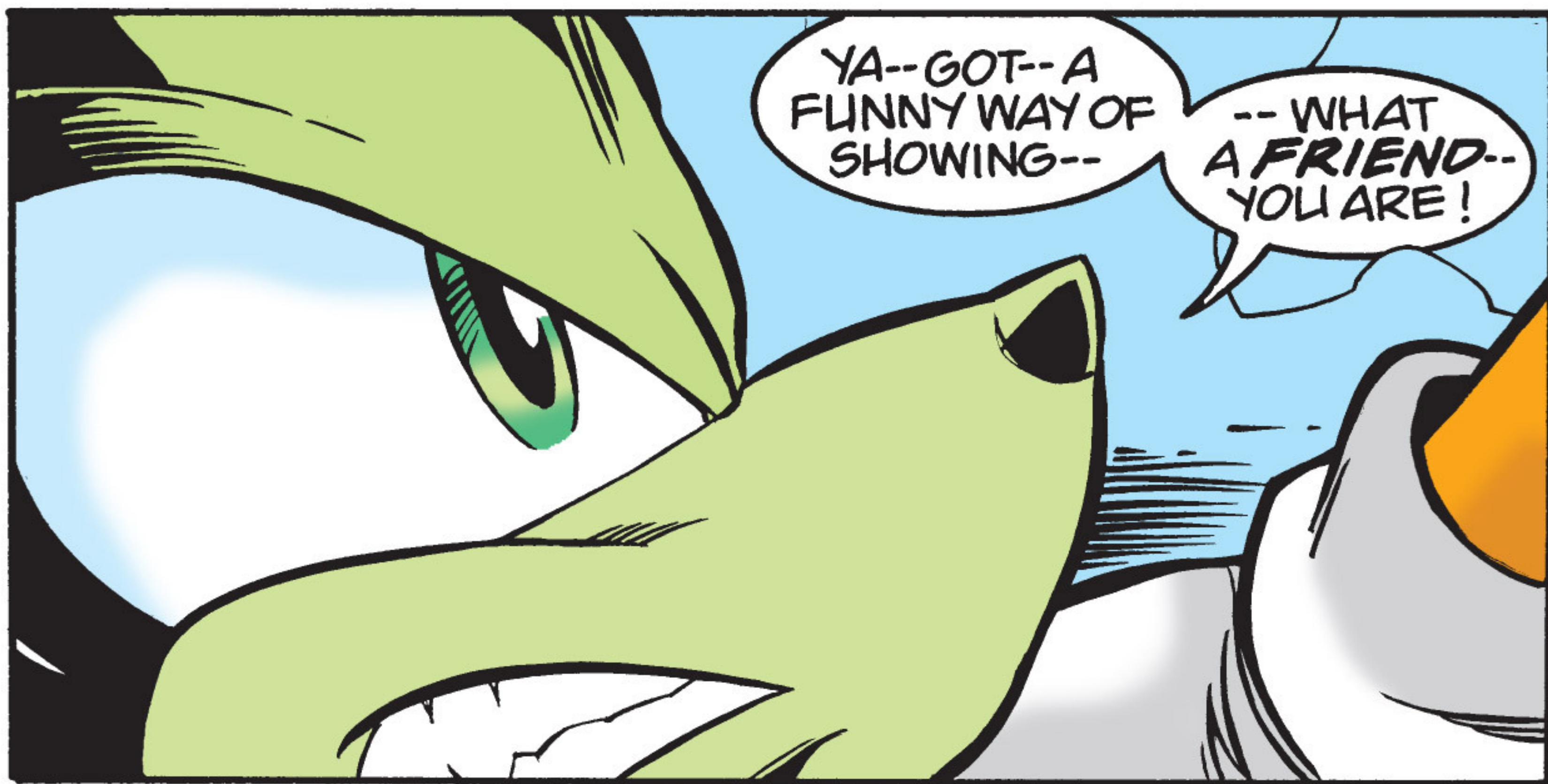




LISTEN TO ME, KNUCKLES!!! PLEASE!!

I KNOW YOU'RE IN A WORLD OF HURT--

--AND I ONLY WANT TO HELP!



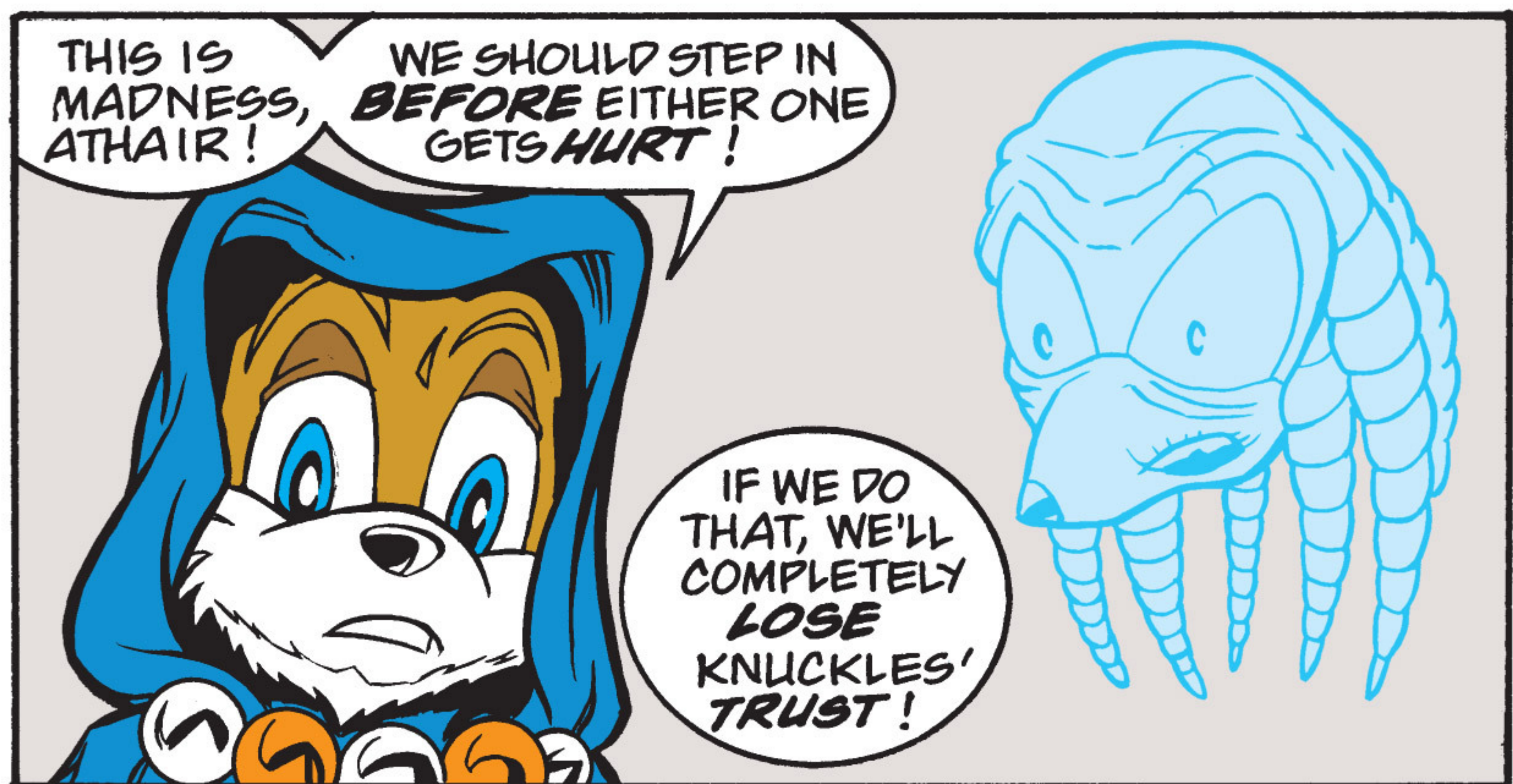
YA--GOT--A FUNNY WAY OF SHOWING--

--WHAT A FRIEND-- YOU ARE!



I-I CAN'T DO ANYTHING-- WHILE YOU ACT LIKE A CRAZED BULL!

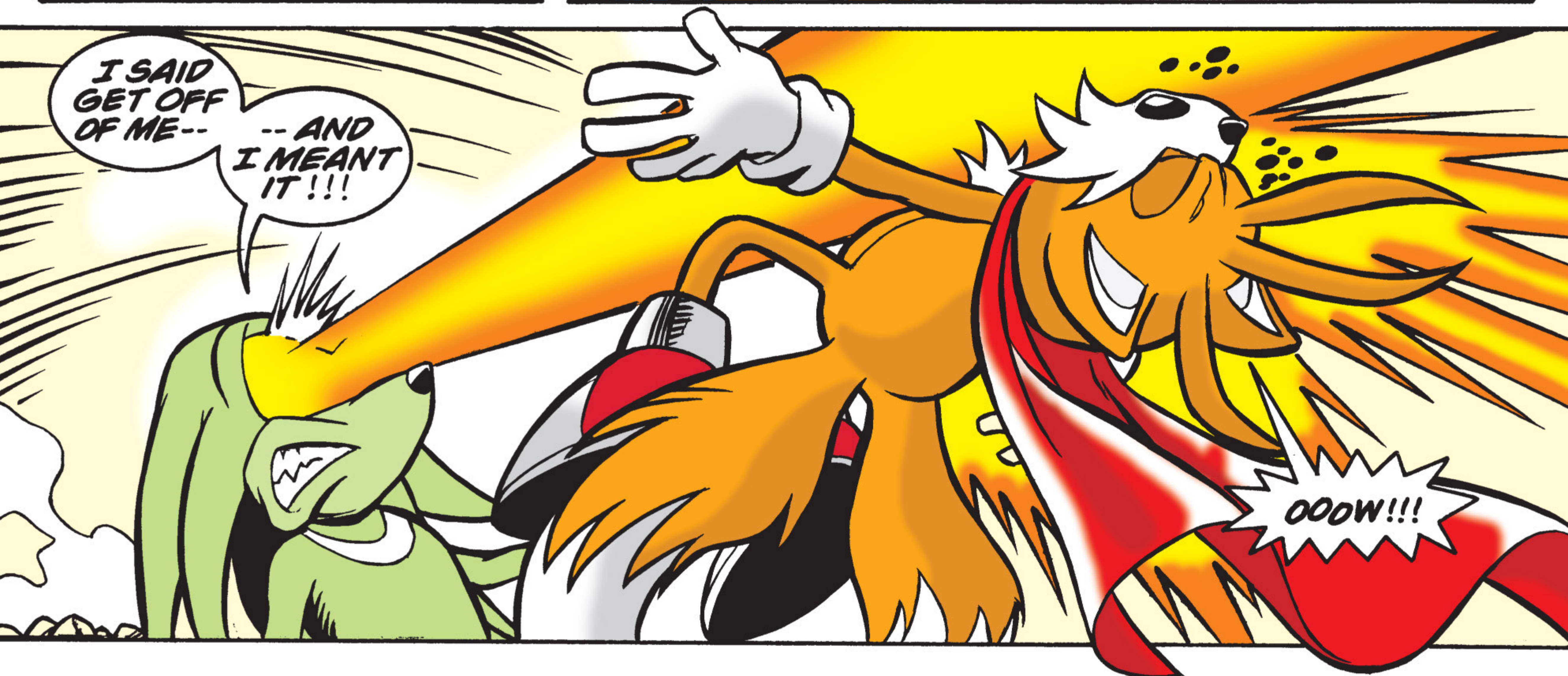
GIVE ME-- A CHANCE--TO PROVE IT TO YOU!



THIS IS MADNESS, ATHAIR!

WE SHOULD STEP IN BEFORE EITHER ONE GETS HURT!

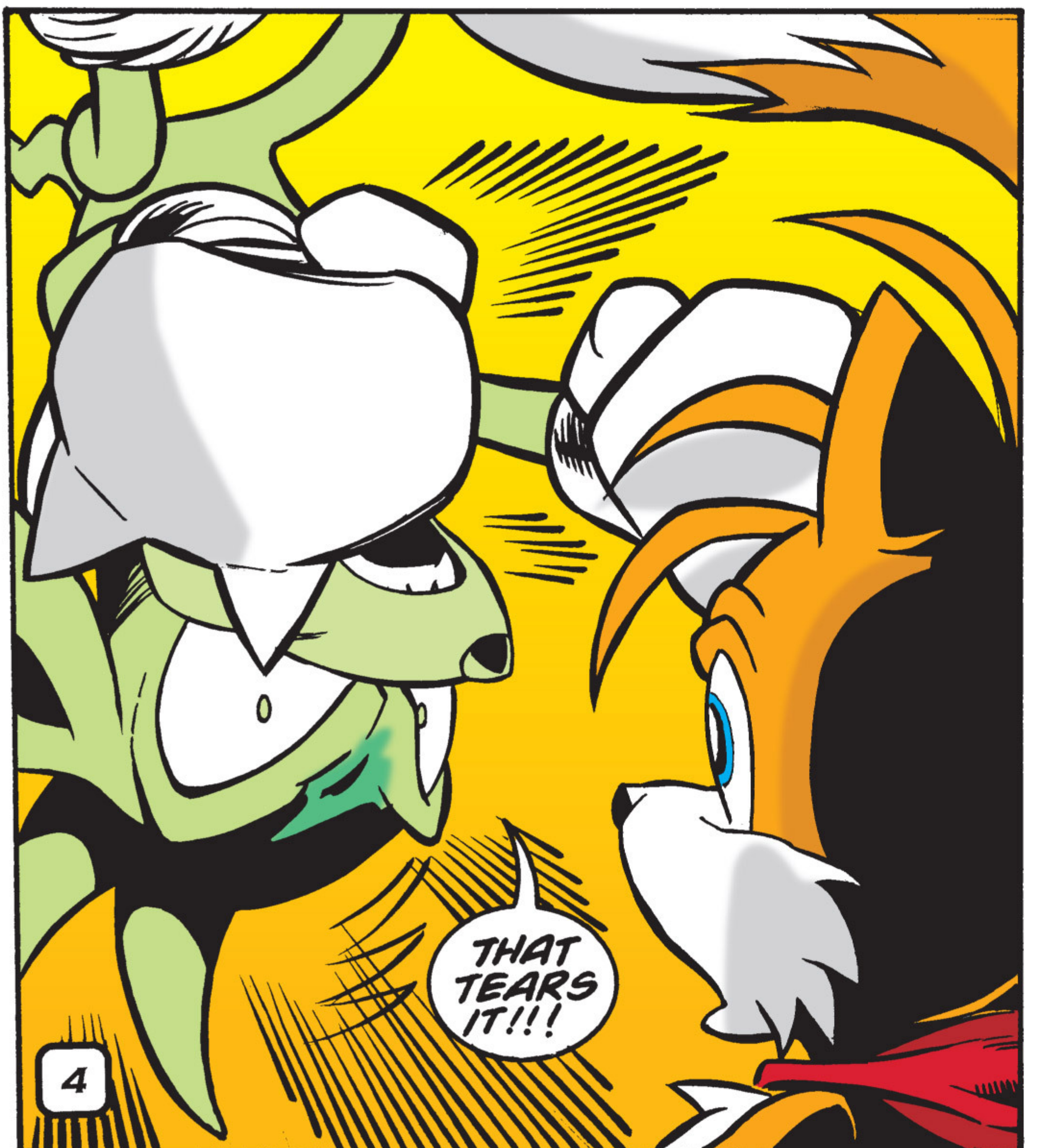
IF WE DO THAT, WE'LL COMPLETELY LOSE KNUCKLES' TRUST!

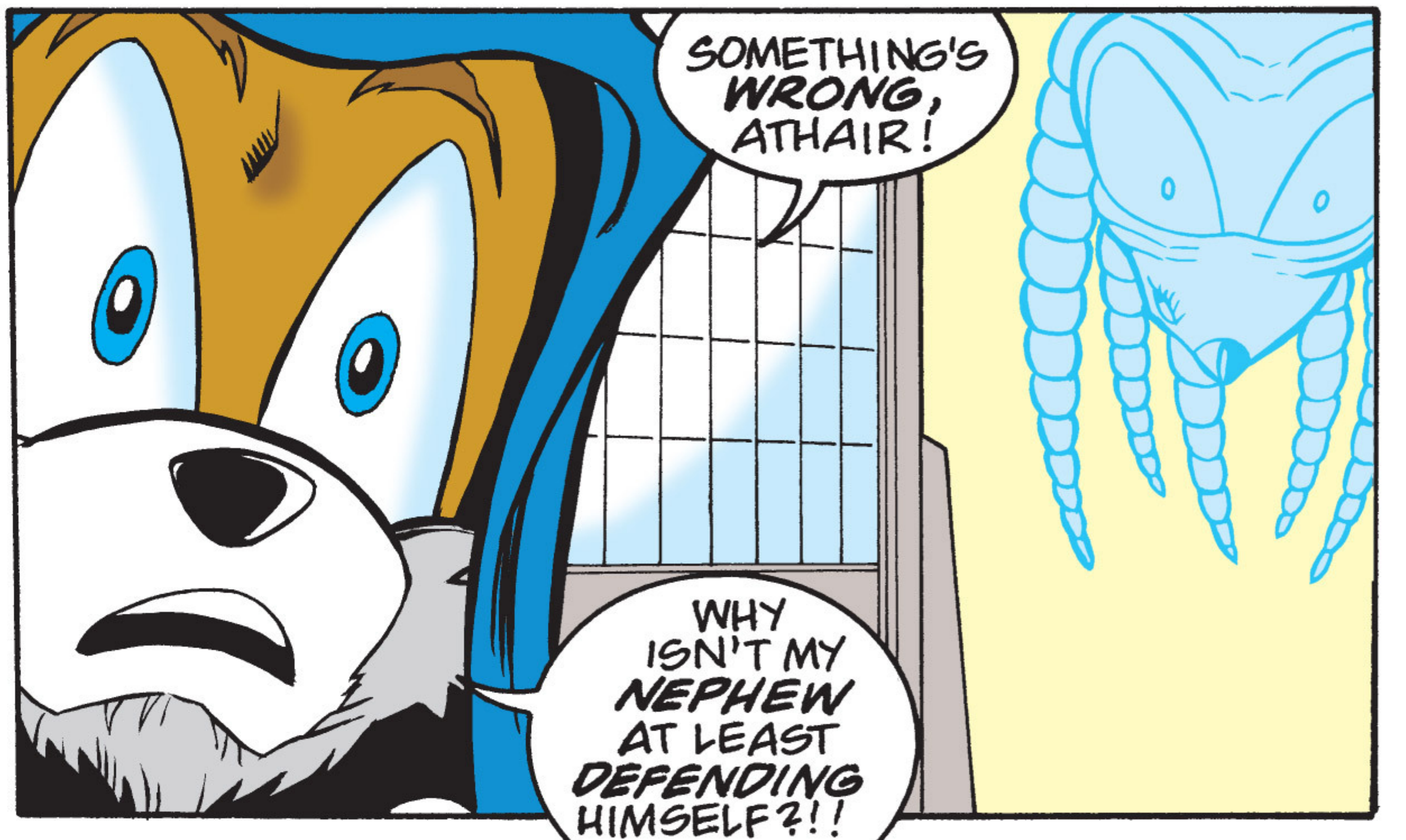
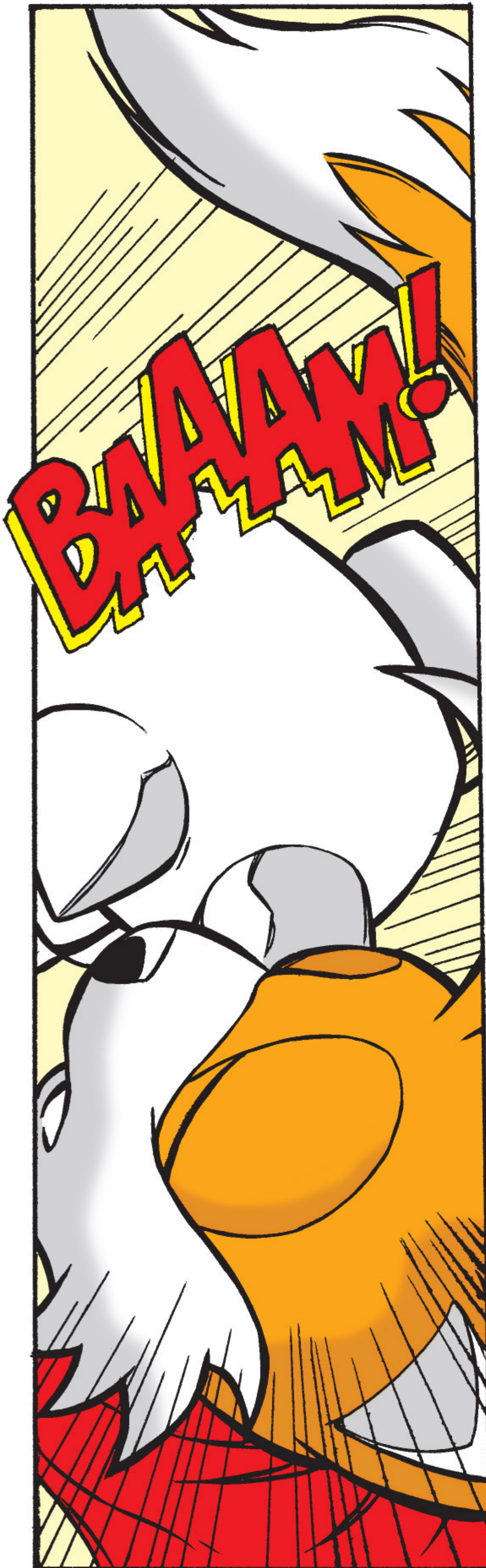


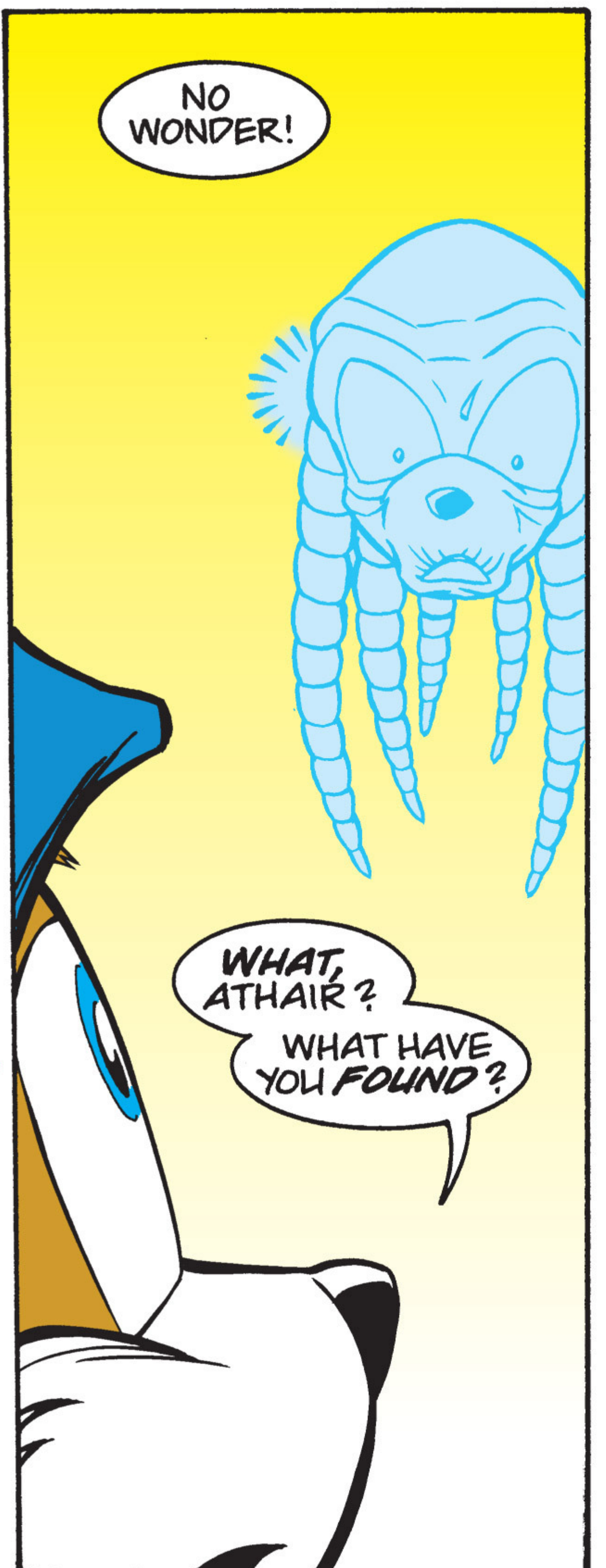
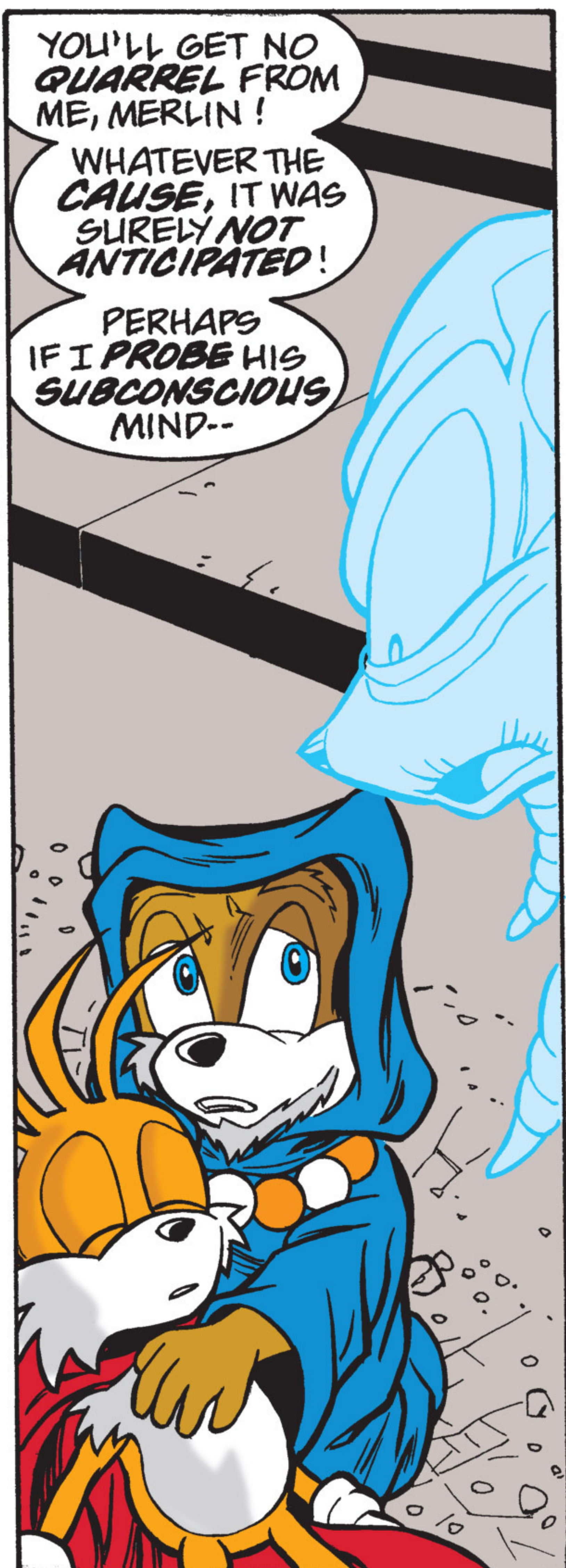
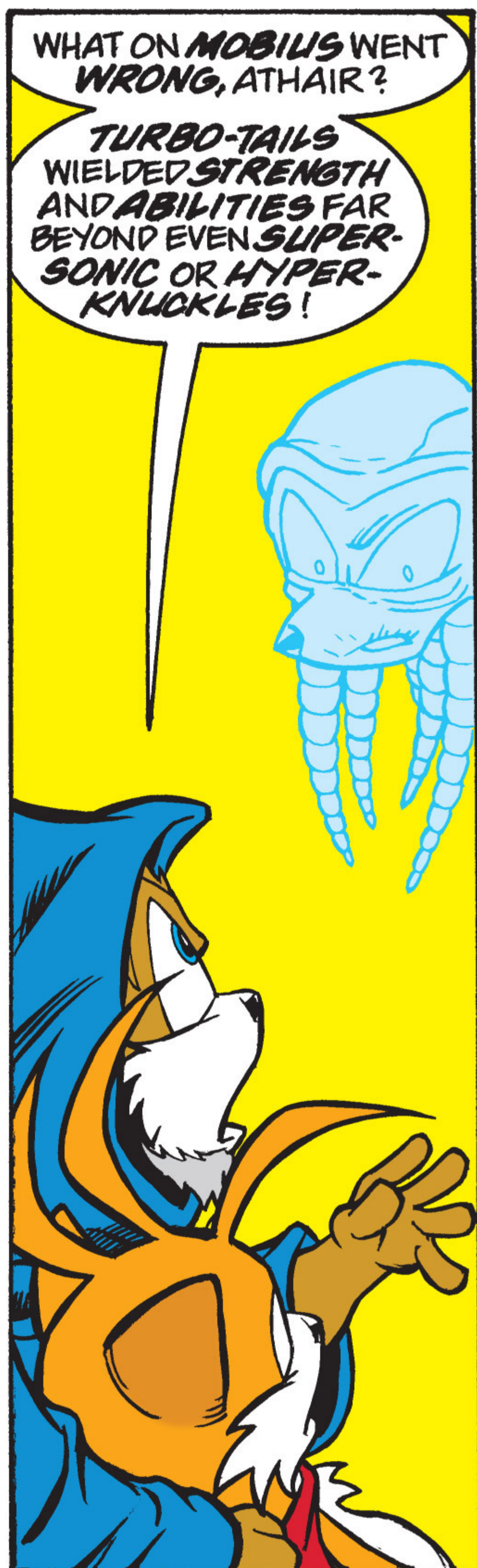
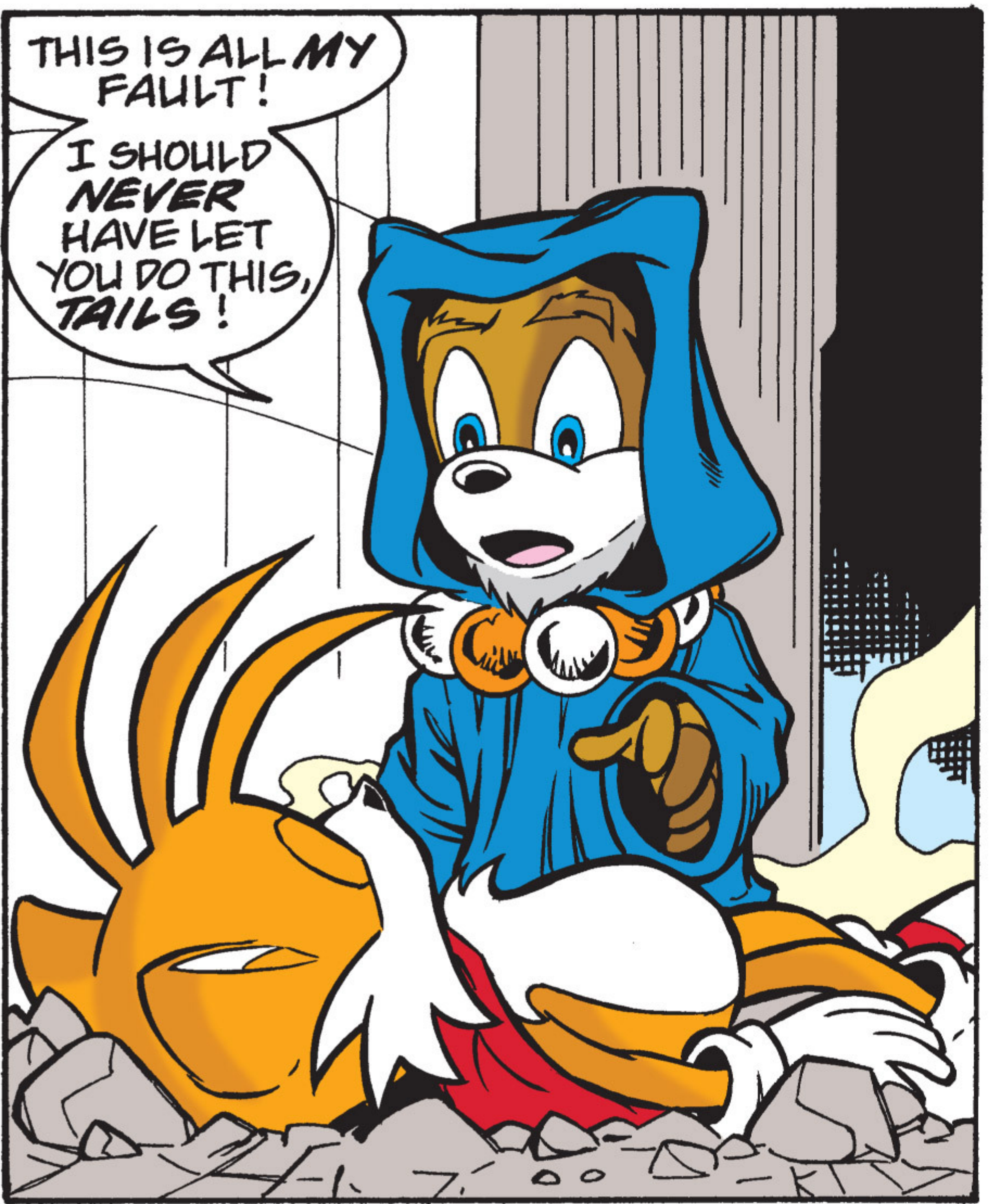
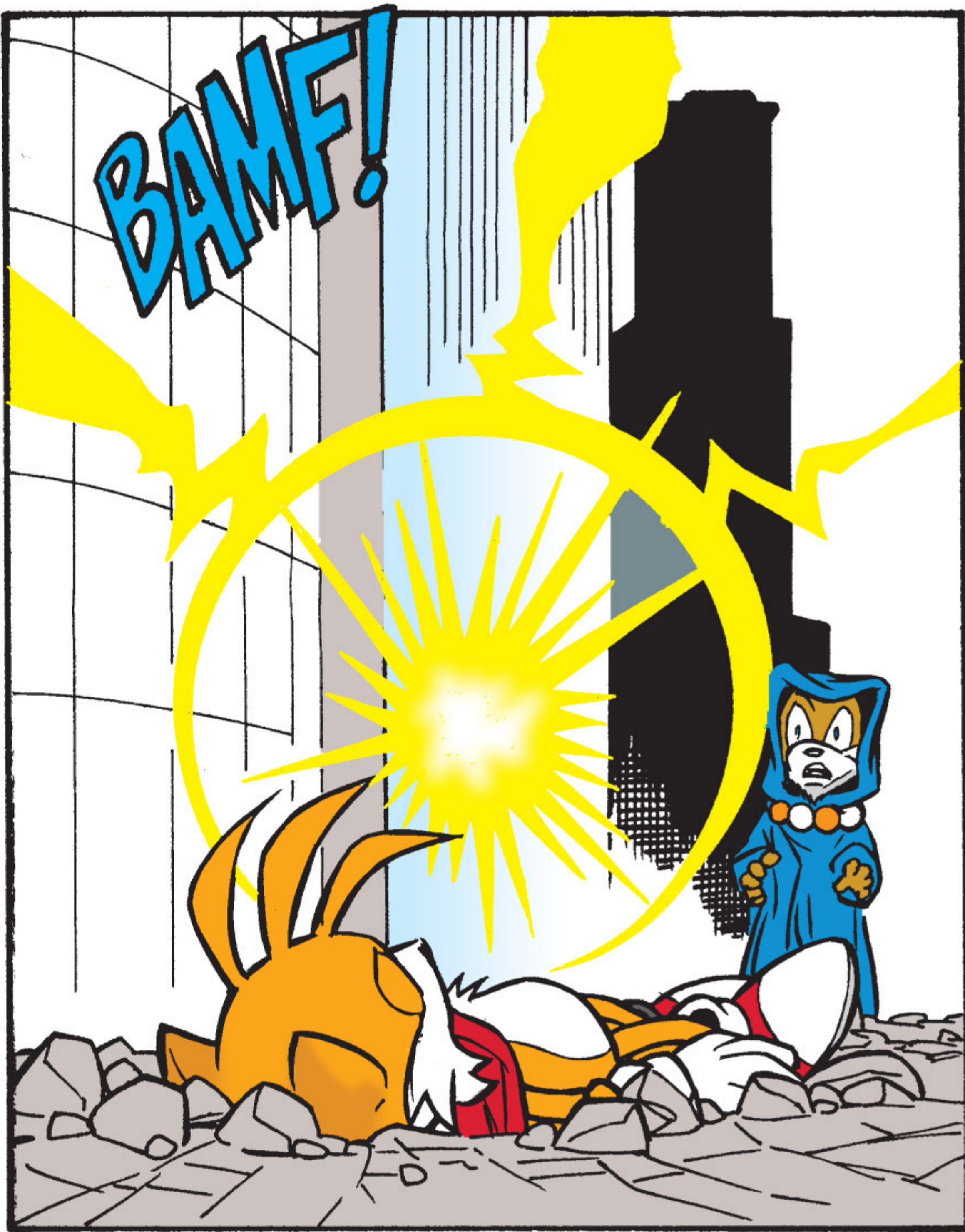
I SAID GET OFF OF ME--

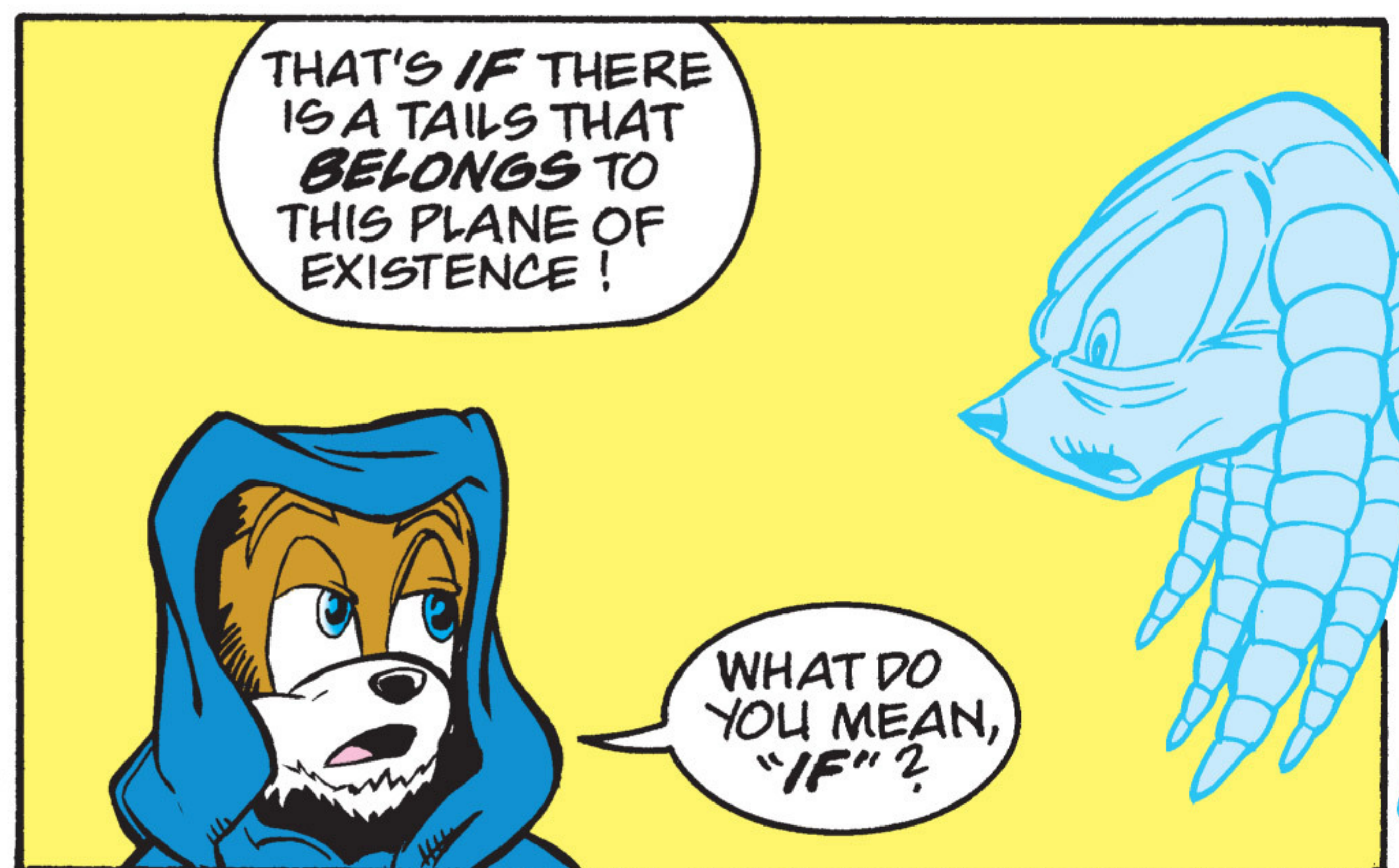
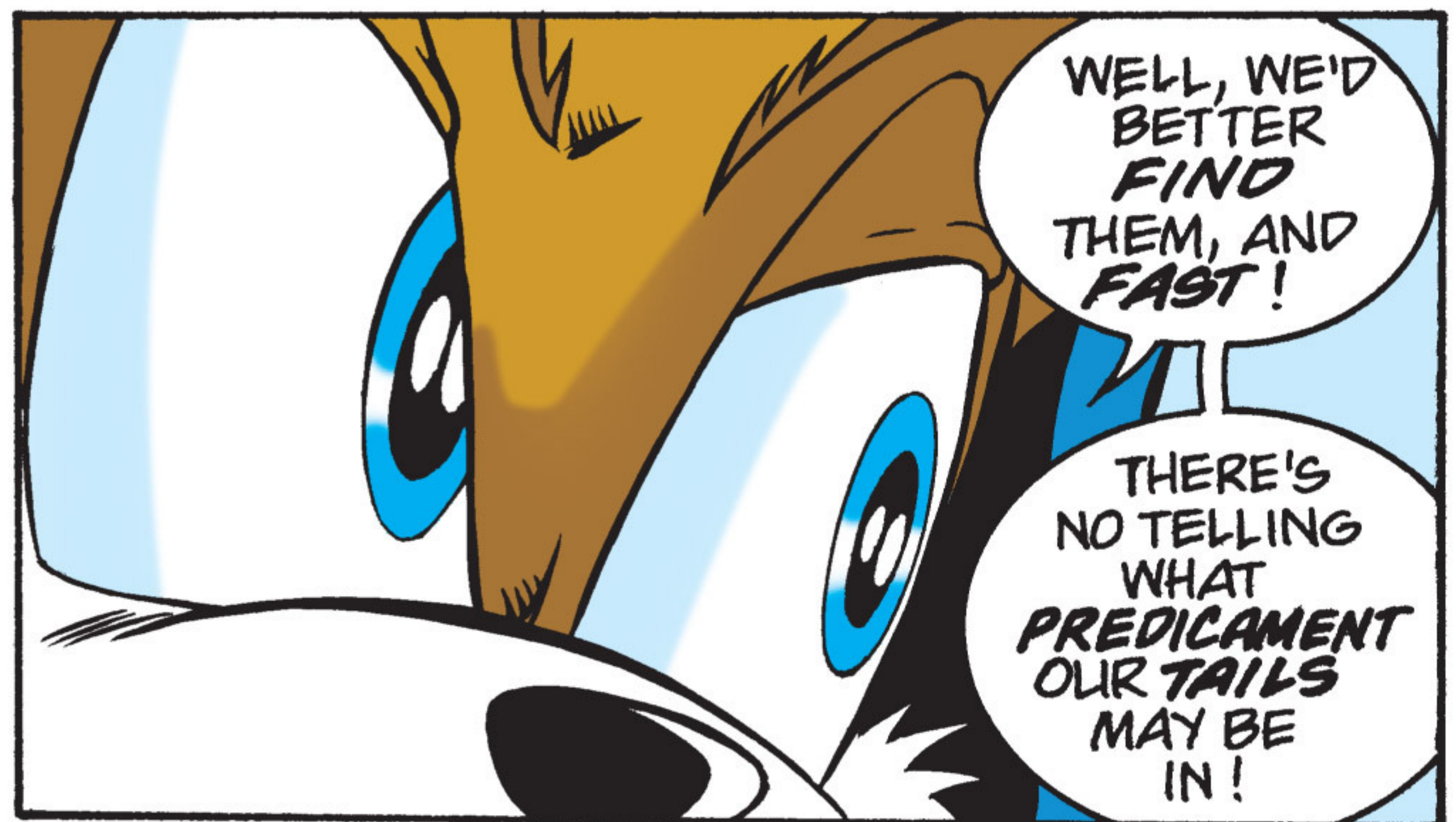
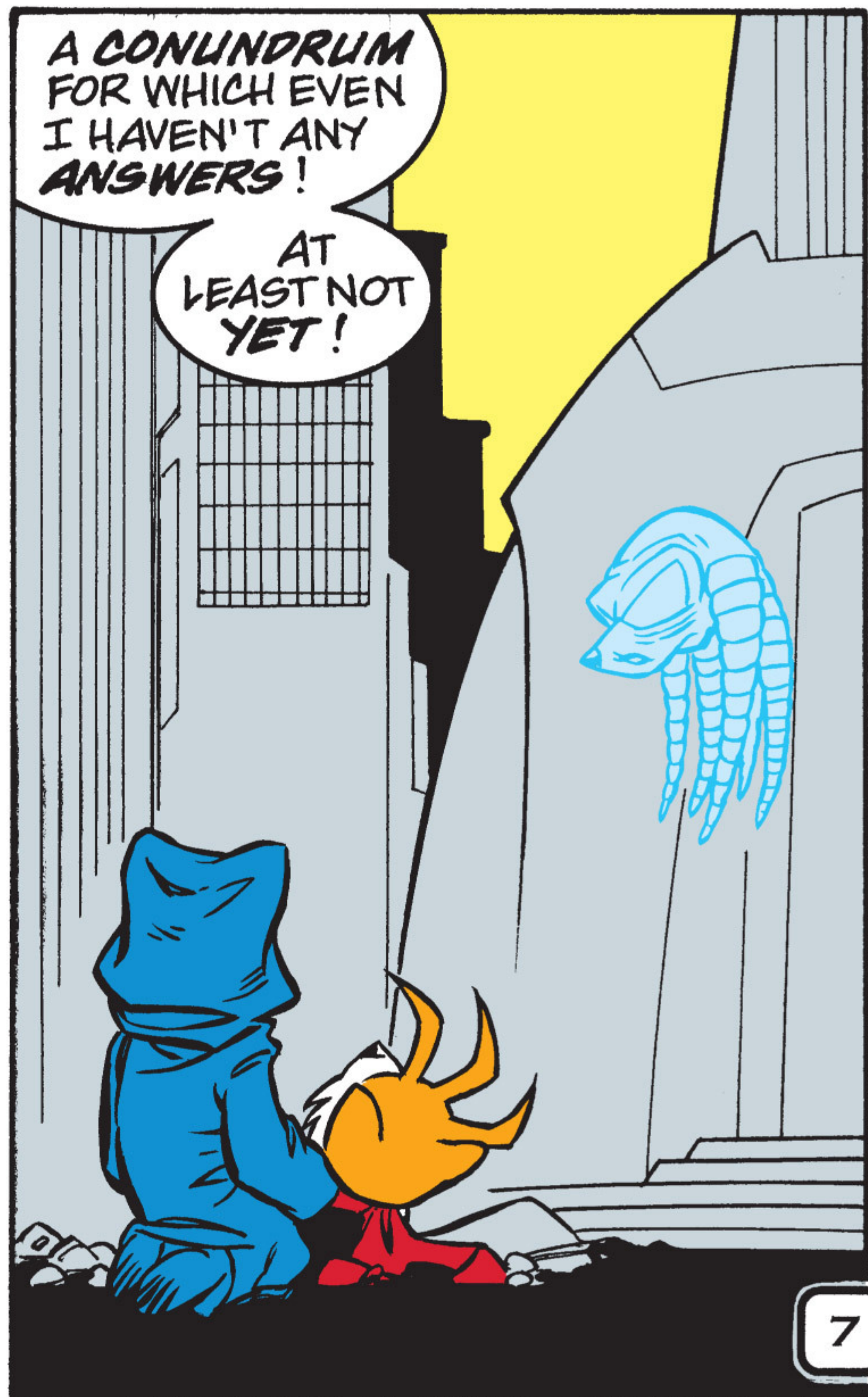
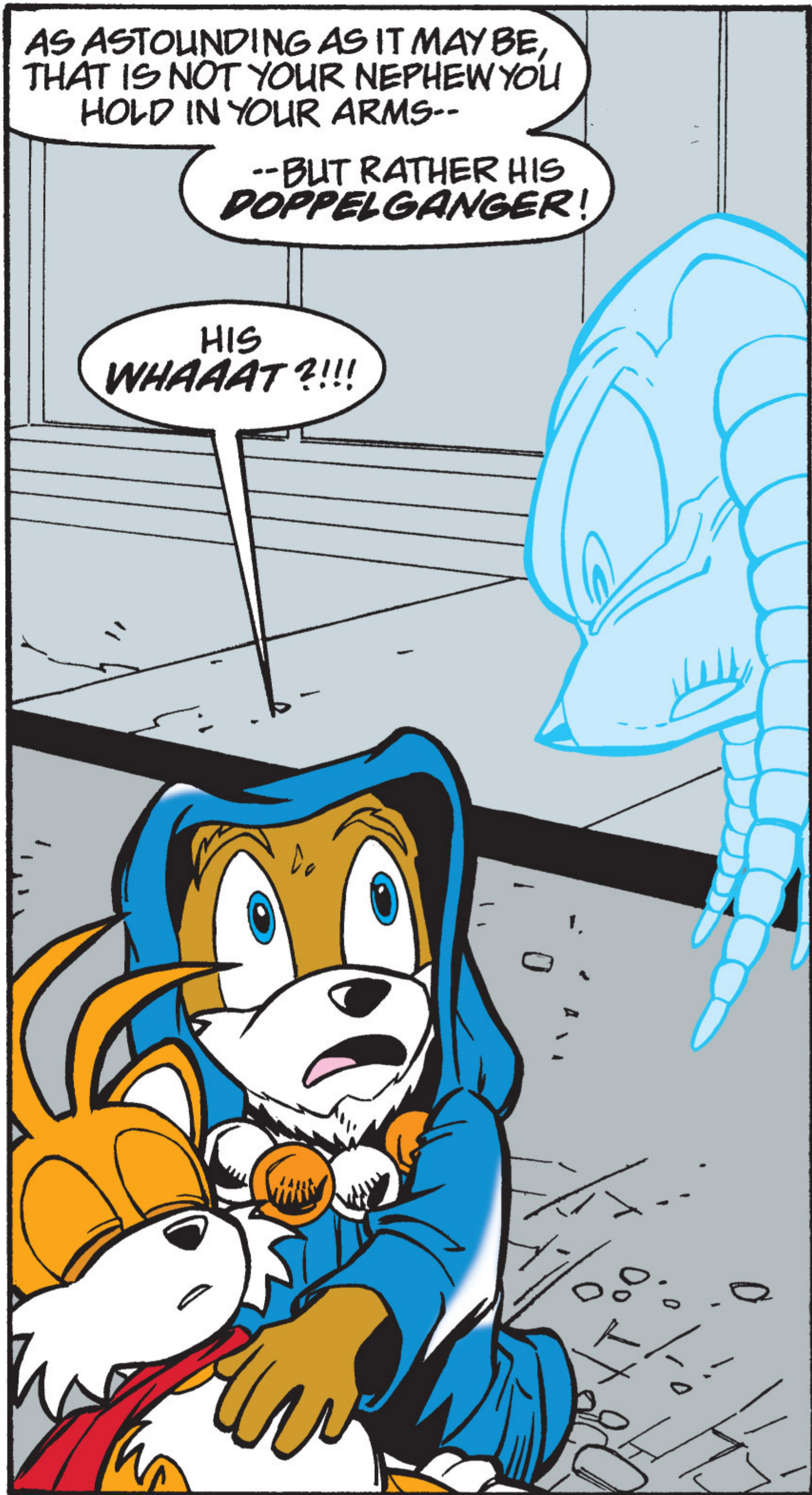
--AND I MEANT IT!!!

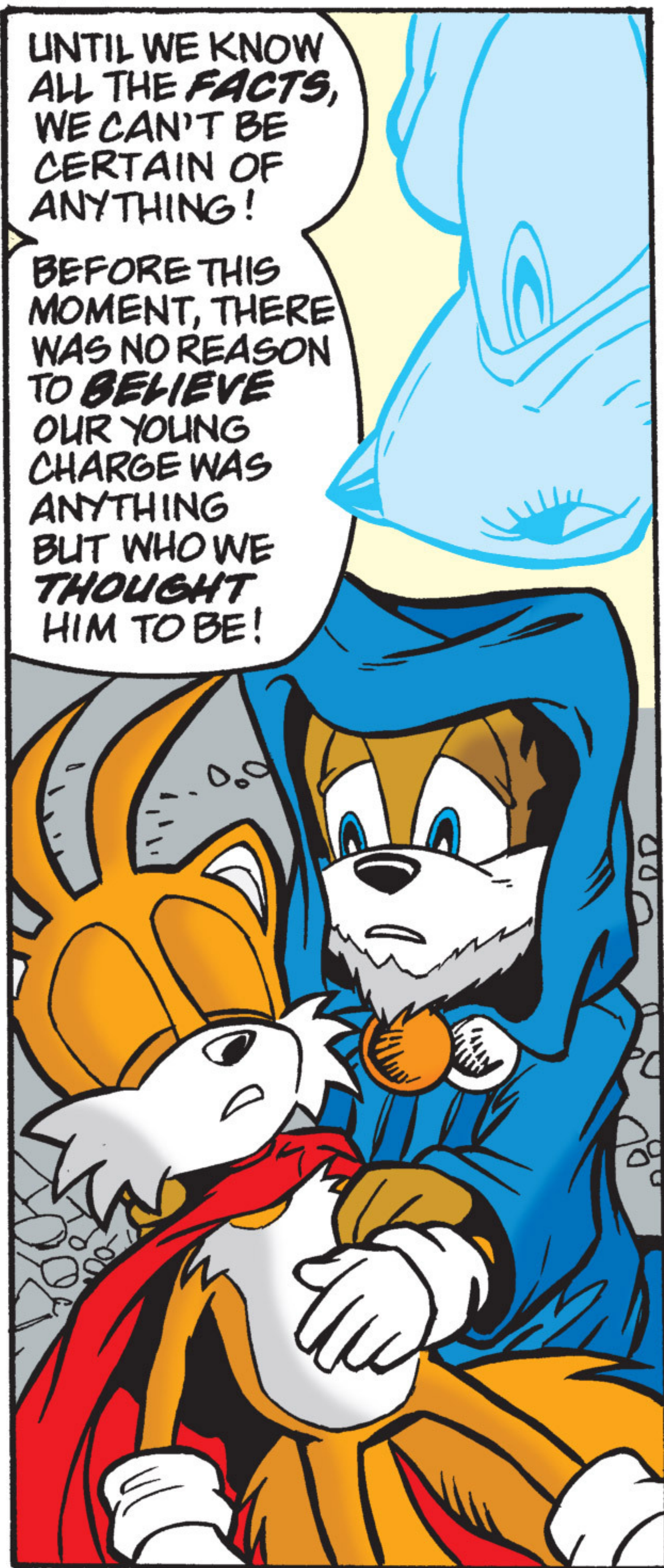
OOOW!!!





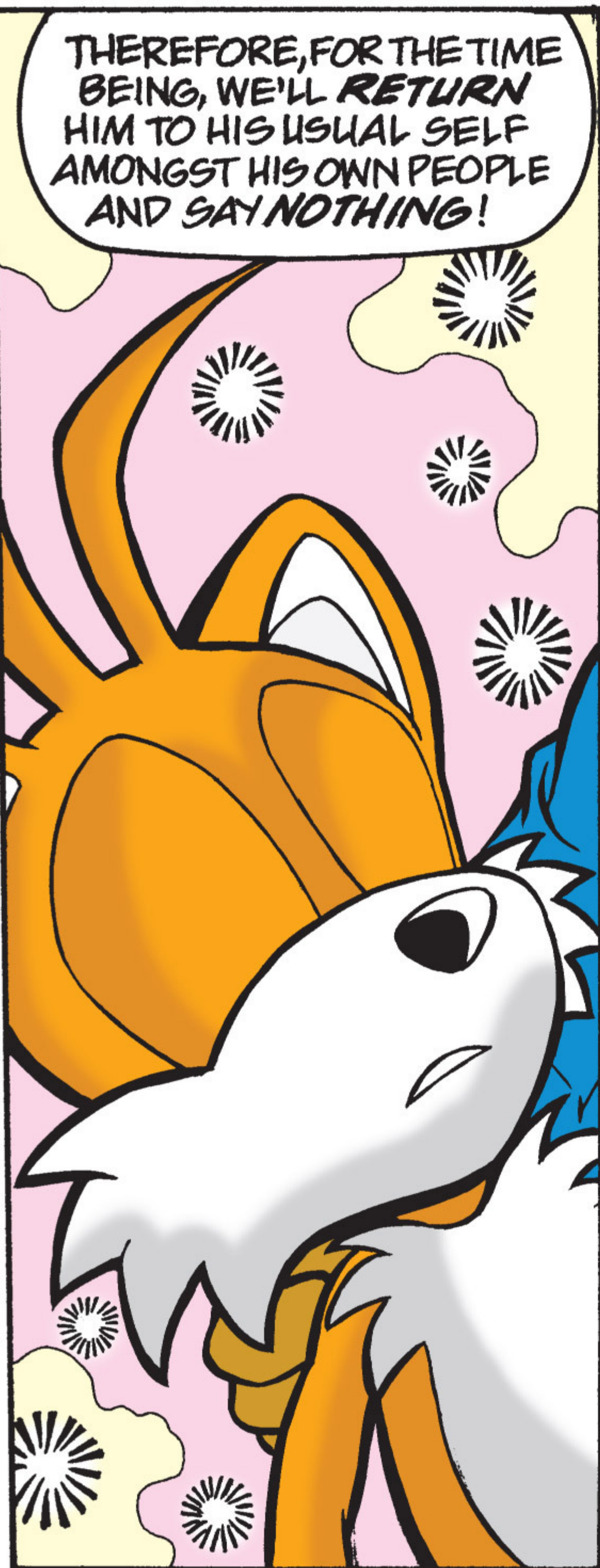






UNTIL WE KNOW ALL THE **FACTS**, WE CAN'T BE CERTAIN OF ANYTHING!

BEFORE THIS MOMENT, THERE WAS NO REASON TO **BELIEVE** OUR YOUNG CHARGE WAS ANYTHING BUT WHO WE **THOUGHT** HIM TO BE!



THEREFORE, FOR THE TIME BEING, WE'LL **RETURN** HIM TO HIS USUAL SELF AMONGST HIS OWN PEOPLE AND **SAY NOTHING!**



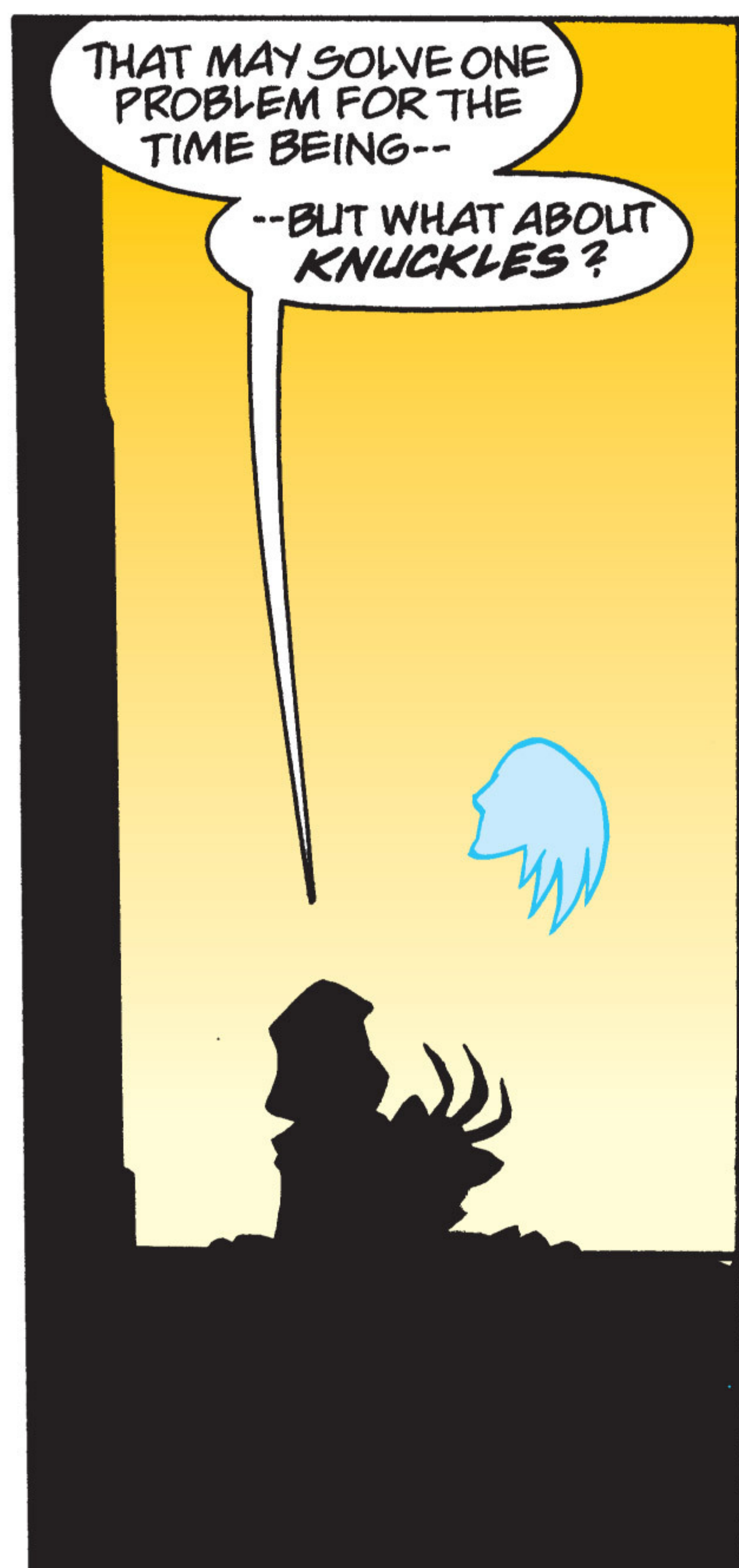
WHAT WILL THAT ACCOMPLISH?

IT WILL ALLOW US TO **QUIETLY** SEARCH OUT THE **TRUTH** AS OPPOSED TO MAKING ANY RASH DECISIONS!



AS FAR AS I AM ABLE TO DETERMINE, THE LAD IS AN INNOCENT, WHO BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE WHO HE IS--

-- SO WHY **SHATTER** THAT BELIEF BEFORE HE IS CAPABLE OF DEALING WITH IT?



THAT MAY SOLVE ONE PROBLEM FOR THE TIME BEING--

-- BUT WHAT ABOUT **KNUCKLES?**

NEXT ISSUE: ARE YOU READY FOR MORE **SONIC ADVENTURE?** BE HERE IN 30 DAYS!

NOTE TO CONTINUITY BUFFS: WE RETURN TO OUR ORIGINAL STORYLINE IN **SONIC #99** -- ALONG WITH THE **DARK LEGION**, NO LESS! 'NUFF SAID!